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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

W. SOTHEY, ESQ.

Lines suggested by the Third Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Cambridge, in June 1833. By the late W. Sotheby, Esq. F.R.S. &c. &c. With a short Memoir of his life. 8vo. pp. 61. Lond. 1834. Nicols; Murray.

WITH a fine likeness, after a sketch by Lawrence, this memoir of one of the most estimable men of our time, must be dear to all who love literature, and who appreciate great talent the more highly when they find it united with genuine goodness of heart, and with every kind disposition and social quality which ennobles human nature. Mr. Sotheby was truly what is comprehended under the term a gentleman, in its best and widest sense. Amiable, courteous, well-informed, of liberal sentiments, humane, and generous. He was the friend of those of similar rank in life who had the happiness to know him; and towards those whose fortunes did not stand so high, his conduct in every relation was such as to entitle him to respect and gratitude.

"The moral beauty of Mr. Sotheby's life (justly remarks the writer, whose estimate is a most candid one, and none of the partial and exaggerated flourishes of posthumous panegyric) was even more conspicuous in the sight of those among whom he lived than were those poetical abilities which have made his name known among strangers and will carry it down to posterity. He early set before his eyes a standard of right, from which he did not deviate. It was founded on the surest base—his thorough conviction of the truth of Christianity, and his daily study of the Holy Scriptures."

His poetical works are before the public, and have often engaged our pen. We shall not therefore trespass upon our readers with any repeated tribute to their merits here; nor shall we say more of his mortal career than that, born to independence, he fulfilled in an exemplary manner all the duties of citizen, husband, father, and man; and died at the age of seventy and seven years, retaining his faculties to the last.

Some of his early compositions are published in this volume, and we copy, as a specimen, Lines on the death of his mother at Clifton, in 1790.

"Clifton, in happier hours, thy groves among
I stray'd, in tuneful ecstacy beguiled;
When Fancy warbled wild her fairy song,
And Youth in hope's gay sunshine sweetly smiled.

To youth the dream of happiness I leave;
Me sharp experience of man's bitter doom
Leads o'er the solitude of death to grieve,
And breathe a prayer upon a parent's tomb.

Spirit! I thank thee for each tender care
That train'd my infancy: the babe the while,
Feeling no pang the mother did not share,
Giving no recompense beyond a smile!

But yesterday, the pious office mine
To steal the sharpness of thy pangs away,
And, in the feebleness of life's decline,
To age that debt of infancy repay.

Yet, while I mourn that mute the voice revered
Which left its dying blessing on my head,
And closed the watchful eye that soothing cheer'd,
And o'er life's onward way a radiance shed;

I seek the consolation Heaven design'd;
And may the God who hears the mourner's cry;
Fix, as thy death, thy life upon my mind,
That I like thee may live, like thee may die!

Farewell, blest spirit! To the world I go,
To trace the toilsome path thy footsteps trod;
And bid my children learn to look on woe
As chastenings of a Father and a God!"

It was in his later years, however, even in his old age, that he produced his important translations of Homer; and his biographer observes:—

"On the 4th of Sept. 1830, he completed the translation of the *Iliad*, and the same month commenced the version of the *Odyssey*, at the conclusion of which he has marked, 'finished July 1832.' There is, perhaps, no instance in literary history of so immense a poetical undertaking as the translation of two great poems, containing in the original near thirty thousand lines, achieved by one who had passed his seventieth year, with so much vigour and elegance as to bear away the palm, in many instances of comparison, from the great names of Pope and Cowper. It is remarkable, that in this translation, though there are defects, they are such as may be found in his earlier productions; and it is very questionable whether he would have executed it better in the prime of his days. This perfect retention of those faculties which usually suffer most from advancing years must chiefly be ascribed to the goodness of his constitution, the temperance and regularity of his habits, as well as to the continual exercise of his mind in composition; by means of which he preserved a facility of writing verse that is rarely regained after a long intermission. Early in 1831, the first edition of the translation of the *Iliad* was published; and during the following year, he completed that of the *Odyssey*, and corrected his version of the *Iliad*, preparatory to a second edition. He lived to see this most favourite employment finished, and ready for publication, embellished with engravings from the classical and elegant designs of Flaxman, for which he had been fortunately able to purchase the original plates. In the month of June 1833, Mr. Sotheby attended the meeting of the British Association for the advancement of Science, held at Cambridge. The pleasure he derived from witnessing this memorable assemblage of distinguished men, united in the ardent prosecution of truth, through all the physical sciences, made so deep an impression on his mind, that he composed the annexed poem. As his latest production, it has been thought due to his memory that it should not remain unknown, less from any exaggerated opinion of its merits, than because it portrays in the most vivid manner the warmth of his admiration for excellence, his zeal for the literary glory of his country, and the unwearied activity of his mind."

We had the gratification to meet him on this inspiring occasion, and to partake, along

with him, and in his society, of most of the enjoyments which inspired his affectionate muse. We can therefore bear our willing testimony to the warmth of his feelings and the truth of his painting:

"Bright were the hours; 'twas summer's beauteous prime,
When science call'd her sons from every clime,
And, mid the sacred haunts where Newton taught
Divinest truths, her distant votaries brought
With Britain's chosen band. Yet, how renew
The scene that o'er that day enchantment threw,
When friend met friend, and they who ne'er had known
Each other's being, save by fame alone,
At their first greeting proffer'd hand to hand,
By Science leagu'd in her fraternal band!"

The verse proceeds to individualise, and justly to do homage to Buckland, Sedgwick, Greenough, Babbage, Fitton, Gilbert, Compton (Marquess of Northampton), Roget, Peacock, Brewster, Lindley, Whewell, Lubbock, Coneybeare, Dalton, Herschel, Faraday, Murchison, Lyell, and other eminent persons who shone forth on this auspicious conjunction of science and mutual sympathy, regard, and admiration. Before copying the close, we transcribe the tribute to one who had gone before—*Davy*—(with whose memory Faraday, our living honour, is almost of necessity associated) and which we think equally true and touching.

"Is Faraday unknown to fame? around
Whose brow Luteitia's sons their chaplet wound;
Such as erewhile on Britain's honoured shore,
In his triumphant spring, famed Davy wore,
When his bold hand drew forth to brilliant birth
The unknown metal from reluctant earth;
And raised the lamp that, bright with vital breath,
Drove back the fiend who fill'd the mine with death.
Thou! from whose lip the word that freely flow'd
With all a poet's inspiration glow'd,
Lamented friend! farewell! thou liest at rest!
A world of wonders buried in thy breast!
High aims are thine! All nature to explore,
Make each new truth developed gender and seed,
And, upward traced through universal laws,
Ascend in spirit to the eternal cause.
Such was thy ardent hope, thy views sublime,
But, ah! cut off in manhood's daring prime,
Thou liest where genius leans upon thy tomb,
And half eclipsed mourns thy untimely doom!"

"Thus Faraday, so crown'd in early hour,
Another Davy, reascends in power.
'Tis he who nature's varying form discern'd,
Condensed the gas and to a liquid turn'd:
He from the magnet's subterranean force
Th' electric currents traced, and mark'd their course;
And while the slave of superstitious fear
Sees in the northern lights spear flash on spear,
And blood-stained hosts, that, horsed upon the wind,
With war's portentous horrors threat mankind,
He views th' o'erburden'd pole discharge its rays,
Where the equator drinks the solar blaze,
Thence back receive, and flash, in wavy flow,
Innocuous lightnings o'er the world below."

After a merited compliment to the name of Mrs. Somerville, the poem concludes thus:

"Here close the lay,
Here gladly prelude that brilliant day,
When thou, famed Brisbane, to thy native shore,
Where high Dunedin hears the ocean roar,
And where the Parthenon from Calton's brow
Looks o'er the northern Athens stretch'd below,
Shalt from far realms the sons of science lead,
From worldly views and low ambition freed,
And there, as nature's wonders they explore,
Bid them her Maker in his works adore;
Tell them that knowledge, not alone design'd
To rouse, mature, invigorate the mind,
Sublimar views can perfect, and impart
Power to chastise, ascend, exalt the heart,
Rude passion tame, the moral sense refine,
And lead from earthly wisdom to divine."

Alas, alas! five short weeks will see "that

brilliant day;" but where is the poet who sung its prelude? The modern Athens will echo with the voices of hundreds, with whom his voice mingled in refined festivity and philosophical enjoyment; but his tongue is silent for ever. Will not some sincere regrets be breathed to his memory, even amid these approaching scenes of scientific labour and social pleasures? Surely they will; for Sotheby was the centre of many of the best human feelings; and such men ought not to be, cannot be, speedily forgotten.*

Scenes and Recollections of Fly-fishing, in Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland. By Stephen Oliver, the Younger. 12mo. pp. 212. London, 1834. Chapman and Hall.

THIS charming little volume—the most genuine successor to the tone, spirit, and intelligence of Walton with which we have met—has lain too long upon our table unreviewed. We can hardly, taking a cast back, account for the circumstance, for we have never lifted it up without pleasure. Sometimes, indeed, it brought us recollections and contrasts too painful to be long indulged. In populous city pent, while the heats of midsummer prevailed, and the soot-laden atmosphere fevered on the brow—in the close study, the crowded theatre, the suffocating party for dinner or for route; the memory of silvan shades, and rushing streams, and cool breezes, is too much for even philosophical endurance; and when there is superadded, a consciousness that, for the gossamer line, the zephyr-like fall of the fly, and the spray-dash of the leaping trout, the very best substitutes within our, or Chelsea, Reach, are a punt with two or three chairs, a crawling maggot fastened to a floating cork, and a nibble or a bite from a dace or roach—the reading of such a book as Master Stephen Oliver's becomes a perfect agony.

The consolation of sitting in an easy chair, like the amateur in Lane's capital picture of the gouty angler, with his minnows in a tub by the fire-side, and his rod poised over them, daping for the tritons, would be something at any other season; but it is all insufficient during these fragrant months, when the fields are green and the skies are blue, and all nature is fresh and redolent of life. Suppose a man never to have exceeded in travelled distance the sound of Bow bell, and not exactly to know the difference between a trout and a turbot,

* Our readers are aware that the ensuing meeting at Edinburgh commences on Monday, the 8th of September, and lasts to the end of the week. The contents of the 2d volume of the Transactions, which has just appeared, are very important towards understanding the present condition and aspect of various sciences; and furnishing good grounds whence to start in marking their future progress. We have Mr. John Taylor, on the State of Knowledge respecting Mineral Vents—Professor Lindley, on the Principal Questions at present debated in the Philosophy of Botany—Dr. W. C. Henry, Report on the Physiology of the Nervous System—Mr. Peter Barlow, on the present State of our Knowledge respecting the Strength of Materials—Mr. S. H. Christie, on the State of our Knowledge respecting the Magnetism of the Earth—The Rev. J. Challis, on the present state of the Analytical Theory of Hydrostatics and Hydrodynamics—Mr. G. Rennie, on the Progress and Present State of our Knowledge of Hydraulics as a Branch of Engineering; and the Rev. Geo. Peacock, on the recent Progress and present State of certain Branches of Analysis. Together with an account of the public proceedings of the Society.

It may also be useful to add here, that at the Cambridge meeting of the British Association, it was announced that Dr. Boscawen's objections to the prevailing Plutonic Theory should be taken into consideration at the ensuing meeting of the Society at Edinburgh. And we understand that his Treatise on Primary Geology, just published, has been expressly written, preparatory to this discussion, in order to detail the various phenomena of the primary rocks on which his dissent is grounded, and to state the nature of the topics which are about to engage the attention of the Association.

except that the latter is eaten with lobster-sauce; even that man would feel disagreeably enraged by our author's rustic pictures of rural sports and enjoyments. What must they then be to such as have tasted the delights so touchingly painted, and are debarred from any repetition or hope of their repetition! surely they would inflict on the writer the fate of Orpheus, and only tear him to pieces the more spitefully in proportion to the sweetness of the music he had made, and the bitterness of the emotions he had thereby excited.

It is now, however, near August, and we can more patiently tell our friends that they have missed a great treat in not having this work earlier recommended to their perusal. It is a melancholy satisfaction to us to be able to say so!

It is observable that these northern counties of the title-page, *Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland*, are particularly blessed with fine fishing waters—lakes, and rivers, and streams. Master Oliver therefore could not have selected a district of greater interest for his lucubrations; and we were prepared to find what he has given us—a real angler's book; practical and instructive in the art, and very gracefully variegated with notices of local antiquities, lovely scenery, and original productions of a literary and congenial character.

"Towards the end of July, or the beginning of August, (he sets out under one of the pretty woodcuts which adorn his work,) I have for some years past been accustomed to take a trip into Roxburghshire, to spend a few weeks with a friend; and, as I travel at my leisure, I always enjoy a few days' fishing by the way. Sometimes I pitch my tent in the neighbourhood of Weldon Bridge, for the sake of a cast in the Coquet; sometimes I take up my quarters with honest Sandy Macgregor, at the Tankerville Arms, Wooler, to enjoy a few days' fishing in Glen and Till; and occasionally I drive up to Yetholm to have a day's sport in the Bowmont, with that patriarch of gipsies and prince of fishers, old Will Faa, as good a fly-fisher as is to be met with between Berwick and Dumfries, in which tract of country are to be found some of the best anglers in the kingdom. There are not many trout streams in England more likely to afford a week's recreation to the fly-fisher than the Coquet; nor would it be an easy matter to point out a river on the whole more interesting, and affording better sport. The angler may undoubtedly take larger trouts at Driffeld, and from streams more secluded bring home a heavier creel; but for a week's fair fishing, from Linnshills to Warkworth, the Coquet is perhaps surpassed by none. The natural scenery of its banks is beautiful, independent of the interest excited by the ruins of Brinkburn Priory, and the Hermitage of Warkworth; and its waters, 'clear as diamond spark,' present in their course every variety of smooth water, rapids, and pools, for the exercise of the angler's skill."

Of one of these excursions he proceeds to furnish us with the details, in a manner to merit all the praise we have bestowed upon the performance; though, from its excursive style, we must, perforce, rather select parts by way of example, than follow and analyse the narration. Of course, the angler's good dispositions are vaunted; and we are told—

"What Pinkerton, with his usual modesty, has said of collecting old coins—'it is a most innocent pursuit, and such as never engaged the attention of a bad man,'—belongs more justly to angling. There is not a single angler to be found in the Newgate Calendar. * * *

"Angling has not, however, been much in repute among the rulers of the earth, for there is no 'royal road' to the art, any more than there is to geometry. The servants of a king may stock a pond with fish, but it is beyond their skill to make them bite when majesty wishes to enjoy an hour's amusement in angling. Fish have no idea of the distinguished honour of being hooked and whisked out of their native element by the hand of a king; and they are no more ambitious of seizing a monarch's bait than a clown's. They are so shockingly deficient in courtly politeness, that, though a king be anxiously waiting for a bite, they never offer even a nibble until it perfectly suits their own pleasure. Looking at these circumstances, we need not wonder that angling has never been much celebrated as a royal pastime. * * *

"Fly-fishing is first mentioned by Aelian, who flourished A.D. 225, about twenty years later than Oppian. In the fifteenth book of his 'History of Animals,' he says, that a fish of varied colour is taken in the river Austræum, between Beroe and Thessalonica. This fish, the name of which, he says, is to be learnt from the Macedonian inhabitants, I conceive to have been a species of trout. He also describes a kind of fly which frequents the river, and is called by the natives 'πτεροειδής,' which may be translated 'the bristle-tail,' a name by which the several species of hair-tailed ephemera, or May-flies, are still known in many parts of England. Aelian then proceeds to relate, that as this fly is greedily preyed on by the above-mentioned fish, the skillful fisherman dresses an imitation of it on his hook, forming the body of purple-coloured wool, and adding two yellow feathers of a cock's hackle for wings. This ancient description of the mode of dressing an artificial fly has been overlooked by all modern writers on angling; and many persons, not being aware of the passage, have supposed fly-fishing to be of comparatively modern invention. No express mention of the trout occurs in this author, for the fish described by him as the 'trocta' is evidently of another species, and might be mistaken for the pike, were we not informed that it frequents the sea. Ausonius mentions two species of fish, the salar and the fario, which are evidently the burn and the salmon trout of modern times; and though he takes no notice of angling with a fly, he describes a scene of river-fishing with a rod and a float in the language of poetry and truth. We also learn from him that boys used then to fish for bleak in the Moselle, as they do now for minnows in the streams of our own country. These instances, I think, will be sufficient to shew the incorrectness of Dr. Johnson's opinion, which, on subjects connected with field-sports, is not to be received as infallible. I am convinced, that though the ancients might not be such proficient in the art of angling as the moderns, they were well acquainted with many things which are considered as modern improvements in the art of fishing. Besides their knowledge of the snap-hook, pastes, and of the utility of enclosing a fish from another water, when using the basket-net, they were not ignorant of the contrivance of the swivel-hook to facilitate the motion of the spinning-bait."

In this respect, however, as well as in some others (though not in so many nor so much as we are apt to flatter ourselves by supposing), the march of intellect has produced considerable improvements. Men are more cunning in the art of killing every thing, from man himself to gudgeon, than they were in days of yore: Aelian never saw a fly-hook dressed like one of Walter

Tait's. To anglers the following dissertation on that knotty point will be acceptable:—

"*Oliver*. What sort of fly do you prefer when the water is clear? — *Reed*. I then form the body of brown floss, mixed with a little bear's fur of a darker shade, and wrap it with dark purple, or lake-coloured silk; the wings are formed of the yellowish-brown feathers of a dotterel, with the whisk as in the other, and sometimes none. Those two flies, with a trifling alteration in the size of the hook and in the dubbing, will serve for most other trouts as well as the whiting—indeed, with them and the red hackle I kill more fish than with all my other flies put together. — *Oliver*. Do you not think that there is a good deal of trifling in most books on angling on the subject of dressing flies? A person who has never seen a fly dressed is about as likely to learn to dance a hornpipe as to learn to dress a fly by book; and when the operation has been once observed, all written directions are mere waste paper. You may teach a boy in ten minutes how to make a wooden whistle from a slender branch of plane-tree or willow, provided you let him see you at work; but an intelligent man shall not be able, after half a day's study, to form the thing from a mere account of the process upon paper. Most of our teachers of the art of angling are too fond of dilating upon that which their books can give only an imperfect idea of, while they are comparatively silent on subjects which are really useful and interesting. Among all the books that have appeared on the subject of angling, I would not give one of them a place in my travelling trunk, except old father Walton; and him I value, not from his instructing an angler how to fish, but from the purity and beauty of his reflections and observations, which may teach all men whose minds are not insensible to the charms of nature how to enjoy them. — *Reed*. I entirely agree with you. The introduction of the dubbing-bag generally acts as a composer, even upon the most wake-rife student, who is anxious to read himself into a 'complete angler,' and to sally forth to the streams a perfect adept in the 'mysteries of the rod and line,' warranted to kill the first throw. Flies natural often interrupt our repose, but the long-winded, trifling description of flies artificial is very apt to set us to sleep; and the sum total only serves to prove a fact which the teachers appear not indisposed to conceal—that hungry trouts are not very particular in their selection of flies, but will rise at such whose original type is not to be found either on earth or in air. The direction, generally given in most books on angling, to beat the bushes by the side of a stream for the purpose of seeing what kind of flies are abroad, is also a piece of information which, for any use that it is of, might be dispensed with. Let the knowing theorist make the experiment some morning or afternoon in the months of June or July, by beating the bushes with the stock of his rod, and, buzz! a thousand flies are on the wing, of at least a dozen different shapes and hues. Well, he has beat the bushes according to the rule—what has he to do next? Does his guide inform him which to select—which at that hour are playing at the surface of the stream, or which, for the purpose of depositing their eggs, are then seeking the shade of the trees and bushes? He does no such thing, but leaves his pupil, after telling him how he may raise a host of flies, to put one on his hook according to his own judgment—which is, in other words, telling him how on a small scale he may produce a little 'sound and fury sig-

nifying nothing,' unless he should happen to rouse a nest of wasps, which perhaps may teach him a lesson that will render him cautious in beating the bushes again. Walton has observed, with great truth and humour, 'that whereas it is said by many that in fly-fishing for a trout the angler must observe his twelve several flies for the twelve months of the year; I say, he that follows that rule shall be as sure to catch fish, and be as wise, as he that makes hay by the fair days in an almanac, and no surer.' This passage, which stands in the preface, where it is apt to be overlooked, should be diligently noted by the speculative angler, who thinks to become master of his art by diligent study rather than by practice and experience. —

Oliver. I am thoroughly convinced of the folly of laying down precise rules for the colour of the fly to be used at particular times and seasons, as I have often failed, even in likely weather, to take trout with a fly highly recommended in books as being proper for that particular time, and have succeeded to the height of my wishes on trying another, which the same authorities informed me was only adapted for a season several months earlier or later. After all that has been said and sung on the subject of angling, I am confident that much more depends on the disposition of the trout to take the bait than on any fancied excellence in the fly to tempt the fish to seize it as a dainty: a knowledge of the places where fish are likely to haunt, and a dexterous management of the rod and fly perform the rest. An indifferent angler may catch many trouts when they are inclined to feed; and the most expert and observant will often fail, even in obtaining a rise, although using the most likely flies and the finest tackle, when they are not so disposed. Beyond two or three facts, we are almost wholly ignorant of the habits of the trout. We know that, generally, when the day is either very warm or very cold for the season, and that when the wind is in the north and east, or in any point between these two, trout will rarely bite, either at sunk bait or fly; and this is about the whole of what is positively known respecting that state of the weather which has an influence on their feeding. It has more than once happened that I have fished the same water on two days of the same degree of temperature, and similarly cloudy or clear, with the wind in the same quarter, using the same flies and tackle, and being on both days equally diligent, and yet on one I have caught a stone and a half of trout, and on the other scarcely so many—and those from chance rises—as would cover the bottom of my creel. — *Reed*. I have often made a similar observation, and have sometimes walked for miles, on, to all appearance, a most favourable day, fishing the best places in the stream without success; when suddenly, without any sensible change in the weather, and at a time when I least expected it, the fish would begin to bite, and I have caught trout almost as fast as perch in a pool at the foot of a mill-race. With respect to the colour of flies suited to a certain time of day, I know nothing better than the directions contained in the rhyme:—

'A brown-red fly at morning grey,
A darker dun in clearer day;
When summer rains have swelled the flood
The hackled red and worm are good;
At eve, when twilight shades prevail,
Try the hackle white and small.
Be mindful ay your fly to throw
Light as falls the flaky snow.'

Some writers on angling, who profess to teach the art with as much precision as a village dominie does the rule of three, direct the

novice when he has taken a trout to examine his stomach to see what kind of flies he has been feeding on, and to put on his artificial fly accordingly. My advice is—continue to fish with the fly which you have succeeded with; and when the fish refuse to take it, you may then, if you please, examine the stomach of one which you have caught. But even this is a very questionable guide, as fish will not unfrequently rise at an artificial fly of quite a different shade to those that are playing on the water, and on which they have been previously feeding. I have often known a red hackle or a dun-fly take trouts when they would not look at either the artificial or the natural May-fly, though hundreds of the latter were at the same time skimming the surface of the stream."

There is much sound sense founded on actual experience in these remarks; every practical angler has laughed a hundred times at the silly dogmata which would attempt to catch fish by square and rule. We have dragged out fine trout as fast as we could throw our line, when the fly, from their incessant biting, was reduced to the bare hook and the hackle feather, released from all circumgyration, fastened merely at the shank. We remember an instance of this kind in one of the streams mentioned by the author, the Kail; when, with such a hook as we have described (the point unbated, as in Hamlet), with neither body nor wing, we caught seven or eight dozen of trout, none short of ten good inches, and some of them weighing several pounds, during and at the end of a severe thunder-storm. It seemed as if all the larger fish were disturbed in their deep and retired haunts; and were rushing about, leaping at any thing in sheer desperation. We left off—because we could carry no more.

Again, a very favourite and very successful practice of ours has been to fish parts of rivers where hardly any one else ever thought of casting a line. These unlikely parts were neither the streams, nor their tails, nor eddies, nor ripples; but the dead, still water. Here, by imitating a drowned fly, and using very fine tackle, we have often filled our basket with the best trout, while other fishers have thrashed the orthodox portions for hours in vain. And with regard to particular modes of dressing flies, we will venture to assert, that from this date, July 26, for six weeks to come, in almost every stream mentioned by our author, the largest trout may be taken at the gloaming, in the shallowest water, above which their own backs are dry, by means of a clumsy hook with a body of staring yellow worsted and the wings made of the common white feather, such as fringes the goose-quill which pens this picaresque criticism. But more than enough of such writing as would better befit the evening chat, after the sport of the day is over: we will rather quote a sample of the author's reflective powers, suggested by the view of a ruined abbey:—

"In the church, the cloisters, or the chapter-house, the broad hard stone, sculptured with a simple cross, marks the final resting-place of the monk, whose name the worn-out letters, unfaithful to their charge, no longer reveal to the stranger who stands upon his grave. The sparrow builds in the corbels of the arch which rose above the high altar; the ivy crawls where the crucifix stood; and the once well-trodden floor of the buttery-batch, where the poor and the pilgrim received their accustomed dole, is now covered with grass. The form and structure of society have also undergone a mighty change. The simple rustic and artisan of former times—ere steam,

engines were known, or steam-presses introduced to scatter the seeds of equivocal knowledge—repeated from their hearts the paternoster which they could not read, and enjoyed the comfort of a full meal; while their descendants, the parish-paid labourer, the sickly cotton-spinner, and the weaver of flimsy calico, have their physical wants compensated by a plentiful banquet of mental entertainment; and who, with empty stomachs, the great sharpeners of wit, store their minds with 'useful knowledge' from the 'Republican,' the 'Destructive,' the 'Gauntlet,' and a host of penny manuals of wisdom and science—two penny trash is at a hundred per cent discount—whose titles it might weary Lord —*, *ore rotundo*, to recount."

Eels, and their habits, are always of interest to us; and we conclude with two notes concerning them:—

"After a shower (Mr. O. observes), when the water begins to clear, bottom fishing with a branding worm, towards the lower end of pools where the water shallows, and in broad parts of the stream where it runs with a gentle current, will frequently succeed; but should a couple of eels be taken at the commencement, the angler ought to immediately shift his ground, for he need not expect to catch trout where eels have assembled, as they invariably drive the former away."

And in the appendix, speaking of the salmon-spawn, it is said, "The ova are greedily devoured by trouts and eels, and by birds which haunt the upper parts of rivers, among the most destructive of which is the water-ouzel. The young generally begin to rise from their gravelly beds to the surface of the water in the first week of March, 'like a crop of oats,' with a portion of the ovum or 'pea' frequently adhering to them."

In the very same manner we have seen thousands of eels themselves rise from their gravelly nest—not larger than needles, and distinctly proving the mode of their propagation to be precisely the same as that of the salmon and trout.

To our good friend Mr. Oliver we now heartily pronounce the *Vale* of kind wishes. We hope he is at this hour enjoying excellent sport; for he well deserves the best wishes of every brother of the angle, to whom his volume cannot fail to be a most pleasing and welcome companion.

Simeon's Letters to his Kinsfolk, and other Great People; written chiefly from France and Belgium in 1832-3-4. By Simeon South, Esq. 2 vols. 8vo. London, Longman and Co.; Paris, English and American Library.

WE have not much to say of this publication, except that it is a pleasantly-written performance, telling us a great deal which we knew before, in a manner liable to no objection but that we possessed that pre-knowledge. Mr. South, or whatever name he may like to adopt, cannot say, as Mrs. Trollope's recent advertisements said, "The author has not confined herself to the beaten track usually followed by English travellers, but has visited the less frequented districts of the Eifel, Baden Baden, Hanover, Cassel, and the Hartz Mountains;" unless, indeed, it may please him also to violate the truth, and insist upon Paris, Brussels,

Antwerp, Liege, &c. &c., being all, like Baden, Cassel, and Hanover, situated in *terra incognita*.

If we could extract a number of lithographic portraits of leading characters in France, we should be able to present our readers with the best specimens of the work; but as this cannot be, we must endeavour to find a passage or two of sufficient novelty and interest to speak for the rest. Of the existing state of France, and of the ministry, the writer observes:—

"The plain truth is, the great body of the physical force of Paris is only excited, as formerly, to insurrection by men who speculate on the chances of fortune in the game of revolution. Those, therefore, who drew blanks in the last revolutionary lottery would find trust another hazard to fortune. * * *

"The ordinances of November the ninth form a subject of violent recrimination. It was contended that a sufficient number of peers had already been created for the purpose of carrying the bill which destroyed the hereditary privileges and titles of the peerage. But three days ago the *Moniteur* announced that his majesty had been pleased to create sixty-three new peers in one batch. Twenty of these are generals in the army; one an admiral; a few are presidents of courts; some are, and some were, members of the chamber; several are advocates; some are members of learned and scientific institutions; and some were statesmen under Charles X. and Louis XVIII., the empire and the republic. The distribution is only complained of on the ground of there being too many lawyers. It is the extra over-act of prerogative that is declaimed against as absolute and unconstitutional.—*nonis verrons*. Then comes the question of the formation of the ministry announced by the *Moniteur*, having for its head the minister of the state of siege, with a doctrinaire, and a Bonapartist cabinet. The spirit of the Parisian journals on this subject are curious, bold, and characteristic of the daring expressions of the popular organs. The classification is as follows:—Marshal the Duke de Dalmatia, president of the council, and minister of the war department; the Duke de Broglie, a good and disinterested man, minister of foreign affairs, in the room of sly Sebastiani; M. Humann, minister of finance, in the room of Baron Louis; M. Thiers, a little mean, cunning, Clement's-Inn-attorney-looking creature, minister of the interior, in the room of the Count de Montalivet; and M. Barthe, lately a carbonari, (Oh! Tom Paine! oh! Sancta Maria!) is charged with the department of public worship. Baron Louis and M. Girod de l'Ain are elevated to the peerage; the latter as president of the council of state. M. Montalivet is nominated intendant general and administrateur of the civil list. This formation of a ministry is even more startling than that which my Lord Grey had the courage to nominate in 1831, even if Mr. Hume (not David, but Joseph), had been included as supernumerary, to take charge of the liturgy and revenues of the church of England."

We add a graphic scene, the most amusing we can find.

"The road from St. Cyr to this old town (Rambouillet) is not very interesting. The soil is, however, cultivated with great attention to economy, and there is not the least waste, except where the road passes through a part of the forest. I travelled, not on foot, but in one of those nondescript ugly vehicles called a coucou, which often carries nine persons, including the driver, all dragged along by one horse. These uncouth carriages you may

always observe loitering near the Pont de la Concorde; occasionally they stray thus far. The horse attached to the one which carried me, would, in England, have had all the dogs in a parish ready to devour it, as their special property, long before it was harnessed, or rather lashed with hempen ropes, to the afore-said coucou. The Grizzle of Dr. Syntax, if we are to credit descriptions and portraits, appears to have been actually fat, in comparison with the high-boned, long-backed animal which dragged onward eight goodly persons, exclusive of myself;—namely, two goodly women, wives of petits proprietaires, and a snappish lap-dog, which, with them, occupied the back seat; beside me sat a smart-looking bourgeoisie, with her *bonne*—an old hag, with a visage not unlike that which some masters have given to the Witch of Endor. On the front seat, before me, was a smart lively soldier, whom *cocher* humourously called Musquet. Musquet was full of fun and vivacity; he turned round, and, *sans ceremonie*, addressed some sprightly remark to the dark-eyed bourgeoisie; the brunette looked at her *bonne*—and the *bonne*, in wrathful silence, cast a look of indignation at Musquet. Musquet then asked *cocher* what he would take for his horse. *Cocher* replied, that he would keep the beast a little longer, and then make a fortune by him; that if Musquet would have patience, and be a bon garçon, Charles Dix, for that was the horse's name, would perhaps make him a sous officer. This produced a laugh at Musquet's expense; even the old *bonne* relaxed her horny features; the brunette laughed outright; and the prim dames behind interjected that *cocher* had turned the tables on Musquet. Musquet was not, however, to be put down; he laughed with the rest, and exclaimed, 'Charles Dix! Charles Dix! Marchez donc! pauvre diable! Charles Dix! vous avez cessé de regner! Oui! mai foi! maintenant vous servez! Pourquoi n'avez vous pas Polignac, et les prêtres, pour vous assister?' This burst gave the soldier victory in his turn. His temper was animated and good-natured; he was also a good-looking fellow; and when he turned round again, the brunette did not look at the *bonne*; the dames behind praised the soldier for his wit and fun; and the *bonne* ceased to look wrathful. In fact, Musquet was triumphant—he knew he was so; and, regardless of the *bonne*, to whom he also said funny things, he said, with a sprightly air, some very tender things to the brunette. We soon after stopped at a cabaret, to refresh Charles Dix. The *bonne* and her charge here left us; but Musquet had the blood of a French soldier dancing through his veins; he accordingly followed up his victory; he insisted on treating them to lemonade, and told the *cocher* not to wait for him. In France all snatch pleasure as it flies. The two women behind me became now quite talkative. They and the *cocher* seemed equally familiar; they talked politics infinitely better than our eternal news-mongers. They told what they had been doing in Paris, and described what they had seen, particularly the caricatures. But they were Carlists; they praised the Bourbons, and revered the priests. *Cocher* was a Bonapartist; he fought under Napoleon, and gloried and exulted in having done so. With him there was none 'so good, so brave, so grand, as the emperor.' He hated Charles Dix for loving the priests; and he despised Louis Philippe because he was *un avaro*. One of the women said Napoleon was a despot; 'Oui, oui!' said *cocher*, 'despot, mais brave, c'est tout! Il aimait la France

* "Let the reader fill up the blank with the name of any lord of great intellect and little feeling, who is fond of spouting on the advantage of cultivating the mind, cramming it with 'facts,' which, even if all were of useful kind, would stand too thick to be productive, while he would allow the heart to lie fallow."

et la gloire !" In this way, if you travel by any of the cheap conveyances a few leagues from Paris, you invariably meet with something characteristic of the opinions of each party."

The author attacks Lord Brougham personally; also Talleyrand and others; but we leave the volumes to those who may choose to read a very fair description of France and Belgium as they now are.

Universal History. By the late Lord Woodhouselee. Vols. V. and VI.; completing the Work. (Family Library, Nos. XLV. and XLVI.) London, 1834. Murray.

We had meant to say a word or two on the completion of this interesting and useful compendium, which has been generally received during its progress with the marked approbation of those best capable of understanding the difficulty of the task which Lord Woodhouselee undertook in comprising a review of universal history in the space of six small volumes, and which we believe has disappointed nobody but a few shallow pretenders, who confound certain rash theories of our own time with the settled creed of European students; but, while we were mending our pen for this purpose, we had laid upon our table a privately printed sketch of Lord Woodhouselee's life and literary character, by no less a person than Mr. Alison, (the author of the celebrated *Essay on the Principles of Taste*, and well known as the writer of some striking historical articles in the early Numbers of the *Edinburgh Review*), which performance ought perhaps to have been prefixed to the posthumous work now before us; but which will, at all events, supply a few extracts, more interesting and authoritative than any thing that we could have given in their room. Mr. Alison's view of the laborious career of his enlightened friend's life, from early days down to the close of the mortal scene, is drawn up with the grace and liveliness which usually characterise his style, and with the warm and amiable feeling of his generous mind. He says:—

"From 1780 until the year 1800, Mr. Tytler devoted his life almost exclusively to the duties of his professorship; and ten years of assiduous study were employed in the composition and improvement of the course of lectures which he annually read in the University. Of the character and value of that course of lectures I should have felt it a duty to have attempted some slight description, if I were not prevented by the recollection, that, while they remain unpublished, they cannot be the objects of public criticism. I may be permitted, however, to offer a few observations upon the views with which Mr. Tytler entered upon his professorship, and upon the plan he pursued in the conduct of his lectures. The class had hitherto been taught chiefly in relation to the science of law, to which it was considered as subsidiary. It was not so much universal history that was the subject of prelection, as the history of Rome; and the views that were exhibited of Roman antiquities were chiefly those that were illustrative of the principles or progress of the civil law. Mr. Tytler felt that it became him to take a more comprehensive view of the subject; to aim at higher utilities than those of a single profession; to adapt his lectures to the more liberal opinions which had arisen with regard to education, and the increasing celebrity of the university, where they were to be delivered; and in the course of them (as he has himself expressed it) to exhibit a progressive view of the state of mankind from the earliest ages of which we have any account—to

delineate the origin of states and empires—the great outlines of their history—the revolutions which they have undergone—and the causes which have contributed to their rise and grandeur, or operated to their decline and extinction. In the execution of a design so extensive, Mr. Tytler's attention was first directed to the choice of a plan, or to the formation of a system of arrangement, by which he might be able to give some degree of unity and consistence to the great mass of materials that were before him. In examining the methods in which academical lectures on this subject had hitherto been conducted, either in this country or on the continent, he perceived that there were two different systems which had chiefly been followed, and which may, perhaps, not improperly be styled the narrative and the didactic systems. In the first, the principle of arrangement was simply that of chronology: the only order observed was the order of time; and the only object of the teacher was to convey to the student the knowledge of the succession of historical facts. In the second, the principle of chronological arrangement was altogether disregarded; the events of history were considered not as a branch of knowledge in themselves, but as a ground-work for the conclusions of science; and the great object of the teacher was to convey to the students the knowledge of the general principles of public law and of political philosophy. In neither of these systems did Mr. Tytler find the utilities which is was his ambition to derive from the subject of his lectures. The first appeared to him only a barren detail of chronological events, in which nothing more was conveyed than the mere knowledge of the succession of these events; and all that is included under the name of the philosophy of history was necessarily omitted. In the second, he feared that too wide a field was opened to the ambitious speculations of the teacher; and that, while the attention of the student was liable to be occupied by hasty, or by unfounded theories, the interest of historical narration was necessarily lost, and all the moral instructions of history neglected. The system which Mr. Tytler finally adopted for his own course of lectures was one which combined the advantages of both these systems, and was very happily adapted both to maintain the interest and to consult the instruction of the student. In surveying, with an attentive eye, the ancient history of the world, he observed (to use his own words) that it was distinguished, in every age, by one prominent feature; that one nation or empire was successively predominant, to whom all the rest bore, as it were, an under-part, and to whose history we find that the principal events in the annals of other nations may be referred from some natural connexion. In this remarkable feature Mr. Tytler saw that a principle of natural arrangement was afforded him, which might give to his course a sufficient degree of unity and order; and which, while it preserved to the student the interest of historical narration, gave to the teacher the opportunity of exhibiting those general views of the progress of the human race, which form the most important instruction we can derive from its history. It was on this principle that his course of ancient history was conducted. After some general prospects of what is known of the Assyrian and Egyptian empires, he began with the brilliant and interesting subject of Greece. He treated at length the events of its civil and political history; and, in conducting his narrative, brought occasionally into view the situation of the nations by which it was sur-

rounded. He then examined the nature of the various governments which distinguished it—the different political institutions which they had adopted—the character of their military establishments—their principles of colonisation and of internal regulation. And when time had conducted him to the melancholy period of the extinction of their independence, he took a retrospective view of its literary history—of the state of its attainments in arts and science—and, above all, of the nature and causes of that unequalled excellence which it attained in all the arts of taste. The next great subject which presented itself was the history of Rome; and in the views he took of this magnificent portion of his course, he followed the same arrangement, and employed the same method of instruction. After recounting its obscure origin and infant institutions—after tracing the progress of its political constitution, until it terminated in that illustrious Republic, which, though so long extinct, still reigns, as by some magic spell, over the minds and imaginations of mankind—he followed the progress of its arms through a world hitherto unknown; and thus gradually introducing to the observation of his students those various nations of the north that were destined in future years to overturn this mighty fabric, he made the easiest, but the most fortunate, transition to the history of modern Europe, and to the examination of the causes that produced the fall of Rome. At this eventful period, he again availed himself of the pause which history afforded him, to take a retrospective view of this great people—to consider their attainments in arts and arms—to compare their progress in science and in literature with that of the mighty people that had preceded them—and to indulge himself in that illustration of the excellence of their greater writers, which he was so well qualified to give, and which, far better than mere critical examination, was fitted to excite the admiration, and to form the taste, of the young who heard him. The history of modern Europe afforded not to Mr. Tytler the same fortunate principle of arrangement which he had found in the ancient; but another principle of connexion presented itself, of which he willingly availed himself. To the historian of modern Europe, the natural place of observation is his own country. It is the point of view to which all his interests most obviously conduct him, and from which all the events of the surrounding world fall into somewhat of systematic order and harmonious distance. It was on this principle, therefore, that Mr. Tytler conducted his views of modern history. Considering the history of their own country as the subject most important in the instruction of his students, he began by the narration of the great events of its civil and military story: he traced the successive steps of its progress in industry, in legislation, in opulence, and in refinement; and unfolded with care the gradual rise of its political constitution, until it terminated in the memorable era of the revolution. From this central point of observation, he took occasion, at different times, to direct the attention of his students to the contemporary history of mankind; to mark to them the successive changes that were occurring upon the continent of Europe; to introduce to them those new empires which at one period the frenzy of fanaticism, and at another the avarice of commerce, had revealed to the European eye; and to awaken their attention to the mighty consequences which the establishment of Christianity, the invention of printing, the discovery

of the new world, and the spirit of the reformation, have had upon the general character, and manners, and happiness of modern times. With these great subjects he gladly, at times, interwove the history of literature and science; and while his attention was chiefly directed to the progress of British literature, he led the observation of his students to the contemporary history of learning upon the European Continent, and to the examination of those general causes which had influenced the successive steps of its progress, from the time of the revival of letters to the brilliant period when his lectures closed. The success of this course of lectures was sufficient (as Mr. Tytler has said) 'to compensate the labours of the author.' They came to form an important part in the system of general education; and he soon numbered among his students, not only those who were destined to the profession of the law, but the young of every different description, whose education was conducted upon liberal and philosophical principles. The little volume which he published in 1782, under the title of *Outlines of a Course of Lectures*, for the assistance of his students, became so popular, that he found himself called upon to present it to the world, in a larger form, under the title of *Elements of General History*, in two volumes. This work has since passed through four editions, and has been found so useful by those engaged either in the business of private or public education, as affording a concise and luminous arrangement of historical events, that it is now used as a text-book in some of the principal seminaries of education in England, and has become (as I understand) the ground-work of historical study in some of the universities of America. Of the lectures themselves, while they remain unpublished, it would be preposterous to offer any opinion; yet, when they are given to the world, I shall be much deceived if they are not found to fill up an important desideratum in English literature—to afford to the minds of the young more pleasing and more enlightened views of the history of man, and the progress of the human race, than any other similar work in our language presents them, and to accomplish the generous ambition of their author, in rendering the study of history subservient to the great end of all education—that of forming good men and good citizens."

At a later page of this beautiful little specimen of biography, we read as follows:—

"In the year 1811, Lord Woodhouselee was appointed to the judiciary bench, on the elevation of the Lord Justice-Clerk Hope to the president's chair. Although Lord Woodhouselee was now advancing in age, and his strength declining, yet the publication of the memoirs of Lord Kames did not put a period to his literary activity. It was now too late, indeed, for him to resume any of the literary projects which he had once hoped to accomplish; but he returned willingly to another occupation, with which he had always intended to close his literary career. This was the revision of his lectures upon history. In the composition of these lectures, the best years of his life had been employed, and at the distance of time that had intervened, he was now able to review them with the eye of impartial criticism, and to make such additions or alterations as might better fit them for that general usefulness for which they were originally intended. To this pleasing occupation all his remaining seasons of leisure were devoted; and with the usual cheerfulness of his temper, he flattered himself that he might be able to

accomplish a revision of the whole of the lectures that composed his academical course. As the first great subject of these lectures related to Grecian history, he now began anew the study of the Greek historians; and as his views included the history of science, of literature, and of the fine arts, he was led insensibly to the study of the moralists, the orators, and the poets, of that interesting period. So fascinating to his mind was the occupation, that, in the course of a few vacations, he was able to compose anew the whole of his lectures upon Grecian History, and to be rewarded by that peculiar delight (which has been so often observed in the later years of literary men)—the delight of returning again to the studies of their youth, and of feeling, under the snows of age, the cheerful memories of their spring."

We have not room for many details of the more private part of this narrative. A single extract will present Lord Woodhouselee as settled in his lovely residence at the foot of the Pentland Hills, near Edinburgh. Woodhouselee, we need not remind our readers, the scene of part of Sir Walter Scott's fine ballad of "Cadyow Castle;" and it moreover touches on the immediate scenes of "The Gentle Shepherd" of Allan Ramsay.

"He was now in circumstances of affluence—his friends were numerous—his own disposition in the highest degree hospitable and kind—and he felt himself at liberty to attempt to realise some of those visions of retired and rural happiness which had long played in his imagination, and which form, perhaps, one of the earliest reveries of every generous or cultivated mind. He began, therefore, immediately to embellish his grounds, to extend his plantations, and, in the enlargement of his house, to render it more adequate to the purposes of hospitality; and in the course of a short period, he succeeded in creating a scene of rural and domestic happiness, which has seldom been equalled in this country, and which, to the warm-hearted simplicity of Scottish manners, added somewhat of the more refined air of classical elegance. It was here, from this period, that all his hours of enjoyment were passed—that all his works were composed—and that, in the bosom of his family, and amid the scenery and amusements of the country, he found the happiness that was most congenial to his character and disposition.

"He took great delight in gardening, in the embellishment of his pleasure-grounds, and, more than all, in improving the dwellings and extending the comforts of his cottagers—an occupation in which taste so fortunately combines with beneficence, and in which, for all the labour or expense he bestowed, Mr. Tytler found himself every day rewarded, by seeing the face of nature and of man brightening around him.

His hospitality was cordial, but unobtrusive—his attentions were so unostentatious that his visitors found themselves at once at home—and he himself appeared to them in no other light than as the most modest guest at his own table. The conversation which he loved, was of that easy and unpremeditated kind in which all could partake and all enjoy. To metaphysical discussion or political argument, he had an invincible dislike; but he gladly entered into all subjects of literature or criticism—into discussions on the fine arts, or historical antiquities, or the literary intelligence of the day; and when subjects of wit or humour were introduced, the hearty sincerity of his laugh, the readiness of his anecdote, and the playfulness

of his fancy, shewed to what a degree he possessed the talents of society."

The closing section of Mr. Alison's brief record is as follows:—

"In June, 1812, after superintending his workmen in some improvements he was making at Woodhouselee, he felt that he had fatigued himself, and he was soon sensible of the recurrence of the same unfortunate accident which had laid the foundation of so many years of suffering. From this period, the remainder of his life was a scene of continued pain and increasing debility—borne, indeed, with the most calm and even cheerful resignation, and relieved by every thing that filial and conjugal tenderness could supply, yet too visibly approaching to a period which neither tenderness nor magnanimity could avert. In the beginning of winter, he was prevailed upon to leave his favourite Woodhouselee, and to remove into town; and from this time his disease appeared to make a more rapid progress. On the 4th of January, 1813, he felt himself more than usually unwell; and in the evening, when his family, with their usual attentions, were preparing to read to him some work of amusement, he requested that they would rather read to him the evening service of the church, and that they might once more have the happiness of being united in domestic devotion. When this was finished, he spoke to them with firmness of the events for which they must now prepare themselves: he assured them that to him death had no sorrow but that of leaving them: he prayed that Heaven might reward them for the uninterrupted happiness which their conduct and their love had given to him; and he concluded by giving to each of them his last and solemn blessing. After the discharge of this last paternal duty he retired to rest, and slept with more than his usual tranquillity, and in the morning (as the weather was fine) he ordered his carriage, and desired that it might go out on the road towards Woodhouselee. He was able to go so far as to come within sight of his own grounds; and then raising himself in the carriage, his eye was observed to kindle as he looked once more upon the hills which he felt he was so soon to leave, 'and which he had loved so well.' There was an influence in the scene which seemed to renew his strength, and he returned to town, and walked up the stair of his house with more vigour than he had shewn for some time; but the excitement was momentary, and he had scarcely entered his study, before he sunk down upon the floor without a sigh or a groan. Medical assistance was immediately procured, but it was soon found that all assistance was vain; and Dr. Gregory arrived in time only to close his eyes, and thus to give the final testimony of a friendship which, in the last words that he wrote for the press, Lord Woodhouselee had gratefully commemorated as having borne the test of nearly half a century.

There are recollections of no vulgar kind that arise when we review the life of which we have seen the close. It was a life, in its first view, of usefulness and of honour. He was called to fill some of the most important offices which the constitution of human society affords—as a father of a family—a possessor of property—a man of letters—and a judge in the supreme courts of his country; and he filled them all not only with the dignity of a man of virtue, but with the grace of a man whose taste was founded upon high principles, and fashioned upon exalted models. It was a life, in its second view, of happiness as well as of honour: happy in all the social relations which time

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afforded him—in the esteem of his country—the affection of his friends—the love and the promises of his children: happy in a temper of mind which knew no ambition but that of duty, and aspired to no distinction but that of doing good: happier than all in those early and elevated views of religion which threw their own radiance over all the scenes of man or of nature through which he passed, and which enabled him to enjoy every present hour with thankfulness, and to look forward to every future one with hope."

The Tytler family have now held a distinguished place in the literary history of their country during the space of four generations: their honours are at present well sustained by the son of Lord Woodhouselee, Patrick Fraser Tytler, the author of the extensive, but as yet unfinished, "History of Scotland," and of many less ambitious works, all creditable to his abilities and learning.

DACRE.

[Second Notice.]

NOTWITHSTANDING our long review of this novel three weeks ago, and our expressed resolve not to trench in any degree upon the mysteries of the story (for there are more than one unexpected *dénouement*), its popularity has so fully warranted the high opinion we ventured to express of its merits, that we are again tempted to direct the public attention to them. And we are the rather inclined to this course in order to have the pleasure of introducing the fair writer in *propria persona*; removing the veil with which modesty, in the first instance, led her to envelope her authorship, and paying that open homage to her talent which it has so fairly won. Under these circumstances we beg to present Mrs. Lister, the lady upon whom our conjectures formerly fell, the sister of Mr. Villiers, our minister at Madrid, the niece of Lord Clarendon and Lord Morley, and, need we add, the wife of a very distinguished votary in the same class of literature? At a period when the female genius of our country stands so deservedly high, it affords us much pleasure to hail another accession to the bright and gifted group, one worthy to associate with the Baillies, Mitfords, Hemans's, Landons, Edgeworths, Sheridans, Burneys, Porters, Hamiltons, Burnetts, Austins, &c. &c. &c., who have so splendidly adorned, instructed, and charmed the age, and who continue to captivate and delight us at a period where there is little else to relax the fever of political agitation and lighten the leaden gloom of pervading selfishness—the one dull tint of mediocrity and pseudo-utilitarianism.

Having thus, Persian-like, made our second obeisance to the rising luminary, we will quote part of a scena at Rome to justify our worship.

"Time wore on; and Mrs. Ashby was beginning to grow uneasy at the little progress that had been made in the flirtation she had wished to establish between Dacre and her eldest daughter. She most unjustly reproached herself with a want of activity in behalf of her children. She was sure that Lady Margaret Sheffield had done her duty as a mother so much better than herself; she had married off three out of her five ugly girls—girls that nobody would have taken to if their mother had not put it into the heads of those men to marry them. To be sure, it would go against one at first to do the things that Lady Margaret did; but then it really was a duty in a mother to exert herself, and Lady Margaret was right; and Mrs. Ashby determined to be more active, and Dacre was pressed into the service of an

expedition to Tivoli. The day was fixed; and it was arranged that the whole party should sleep there at the inn for one night, and return on the morrow. The day arrived—the weather seemed propitious—the Miss Ashbys were decked out in their newest bonnets, and their prettiest gowns; a *demi-toilette* was safely packed for them to wear, and look well in the evening; and the two smart men, with whom Cecilia had coquetted herself into a flirtation, arrived to accompany them. Miss Ashby was in her very best looks; and, as Dacre handed her down to the carriage, Mrs. Ashby gave a smile of maternal content; for she felt sure he must admire her, and that all would go well. With the help of the dickey the carriage could well hold six; and some said what an agreeable day they should have; and all but Dacre, perhaps, really thought it would be a party of pleasure. The walls of Rome were passed; and now they looked upon the low and broken aqueducts that stretched their ruined arches far across the plain. Miss Ashby raised her glass to her eye, and said to Dacre, in a sentimental tone, 'What splendid corridors these may once have been!' The two young men declared that nobody knew the fun of Rome who had not been snipe-shooting. One declared he had never had a better day's sport since he left Cambridge; and the other vowed he had half a mind to run up a shooting-box down in the marshes; and Cecilia laughed at the notion, and promised they would all go and see him in his new house. Mrs. Ashby looked at Dacre just to see if he thought Cecilia foolish. She saw that Dacre was listening to her eldest daughter, and then she smiled at her ease with Cecilia and her hero, and was sure that all was going on well. In time, one of the sportsmen, however, became more and more silent. He turned very pale, and complained of the cold, when others were fearing the heat of the sun. Miss Cecilia treated his complaint as a joke; threw him her shawl, and said it was so droll of him to be chilly—and on they drove. The smell of sulphur, that rises from the stream they were approaching, grew stronger and stronger. Miss Ashby took her highly-scented handkerchief from her best embroidered bag, looked at Dacre, and said, 'How unpleasant!' Cecilia laughed, and said, she 'quite liked the smell, it was a dear smell—it seemed so nice and ancient;' and Mrs. Ashby felt how charmingly her daughters' tastes contrasted with each other. Meanwhile the sickness of approaching fever seemed fast increasing on the gentleman who had complained of cold; the blood looked stagnant on his cheek, his eye was dim and heavy, his lips were black, and there was the drawn expression on his face which tells of coming illness."—[This increasing illness is the topic of conversation.] "You will be obliged to go to bed as soon as we get to Tivoli," said Miss Ashby, with great philosophy, for Fitzgerald did not interest her. 'You must let me nurse you, and doctor you there, as I am the old woman of the party,' said Mrs. Ashby, with a look of maternal benignity. 'Thank you,' said Fitzgerald: 'I dare say I shall be quite well to-morrow;' and he shivered violently as he spoke. "By Jove, Fitzgerald, you are in for it," said the sporting friend, turning his head from the box in front into the carriage; 'I suppose it will be my turn next: what odds will you take that I have caught it?' Mrs. Ashby turned pale: 'I think, Mr. Dacre, if none of the party would very much object, that we had better turn about, and get back to Rome as soon as possible; I am sure it will be better for Mr. Fitz-

gerald, and we shall none of us enjoy the trip when he is suffering.' Cecilia and Dacre joyfully acquiesced; Miss Ashby looked resigned, and said, in a voice that was meant for Dacre's ear alone, 'I believe you are right.' 'Julia, keep your handkerchief to your mouth,' whispered Mrs. Ashby in her daughter's ear: 'he has got the malaria, and it is dreadfully infectious;' and then watched her opportunity to impart the same advice and information to Cecilia. 'I don't believe, mamma, it is infectious,' whispered Cecilia, who did not like to be deprived of talking to Mr. Fitzgerald as much as she could all the way home. 'My dear,' rejoined Mrs. Ashby, 'I am quite of Lady Whitby's opinion, that every complaint is infectious, though some people don't happen to catch it. We shall consider our party for dinner holds good; so neither you nor Mr. Dacre must desert us,' said Mrs. Ashby, addressing herself to the gentlemen outside. They both declared their willingness to accept the invitation; and, continued Mrs. Ashby, looking at Dacre, 'supposing, as we cannot have the pleasure of Mr. Fitzgerald's company, you ask Mr. Crofton to come and join us, if he will excuse our want of preparation—you know how happy we always are to see him.' Dacre promised to be the bearer of her message. 'He is a great friend of yours, I think,' said Mrs. Ashby. Dacre said he was. 'He is so intellectual!' observed Mrs. Ashby, with a very sensible face. 'It is quite refreshing to hear him on the fine arts,' said Miss Ashby, who had lately discovered the necessity, at Rome, of being a little pedantic."

So the poor invalid is deposited at his lodgings, and the party dine, all pursuing their own views, with every possible hilarity, mindful of themselves, and oblivious of all else.

ARUNDELL'S ASIA MINOR.

[Second notice: conclusion.]

It is an amiable and becoming enthusiasm in a Protestant divine; but, *certainly*, Mr. Arundell attaches quite as much importance as the questions merit to the mere localities of apostolic labours. At Yalobatz he finds a Greek inscription on a monument erected by a Roman lady to her husband, ending with a usual denunciation against any one who should injure it—'*ἵνα μὴ ἄνθρωπος ἁρπάξῃ τὸν λίθον*'—"let him answer for it to the God," on which he thus comments. "I would willingly have supposed this to be a Christian inscription, and have translated '*σπας τον λιθον*,' 'to God,' instead of 'to the God;' but the anxiety for the preservation of the monumental column is evidence that Marcianus (the husband) was a heathen. The Christian needs not have his name engraved on marble to live in the recollection of his friends. Petrona [otherwise spelt in the same page Petronia, the wife*], had she been blessed with the light of

* As we have no object in our reviews but impartiality and justice, we do not hesitate to insert the following lines which Mr. Arundell has written upon our critique of last week:—

"1. The extracts from the former journal were absolutely necessary to give the reader a clear understanding of the present; for it would be too much to suppose that 'the Visit to the Seven Churches' was in the possession of the generality of readers, and many may never have heard of it. But extracts are only introduced when they relate to places or routes intimately connected with the present journey; and if such extracts had not been given, it would have been indispensable to give the substance, if not in the very words. 2. The conjectures certainly are many; but these do not refer to what the author considers his 'discoveries,' as Apamea, Apollonia, Antioch, Sagalossus, Colossus, &c. &c., about which he does not conjecture at all, but adduces positive proof. The important ruins at Suleiman and Germa are not subject of conjecture as to their 'discovery;' and if the author ventures to conjecture that the names he has affixed to them, and of which he has little doubt in his own mind, may not

Christianity, would have needed no other consolation, than to know that his name, 'a new name,' would be written on a white stone above."

We hardly know which part of this solemn trifling is the most absurd. What does it signify, whether an ancient monumental inscription recorded the conjugal affection of a Pagan or a Christian? And with regard to the later numerous division of the human race not seeking nor needing such memorials of their human sympathies, one would really suppose that such things as tombstones or epitaphs had never been seen in our churches and churchyards! With all our reverence for white stones

have been the ancient ones, this is only in deference to persons more intent in geographical research than himself, though even those gentlemen have expressed their conviction that *Clavudde* and *Cremna* are properly and satisfactorily affixed to those ruins. Upon many other places, if the author uses conjecture, or rather *supposition*, instead of positive assertion, it did not arise from any doubts in his own mind, but from a diffidence to assert without positive evidence. Certainly he might have asserted the existence of Eucarpia, Lagon, &c. at Segidar, Garislee, &c. 3. The author is not aware of having indulged in unfounded flights of fancy when describing the remains of many ancient churches. He has stated *matter-of-factly*, and the existence of such remains, with an account of their form, will be found interesting to many, who consider every thing as valuable which is connected with the first establishment of the holy religion. 4. St. Paul's boot-mender as a running-title may have been ridiculous enough; but if the editor had seen the man so designated, he would almost have fancied with the author that he had been coveal with the apostle: the author has been twelve years in Asia Minor, and he does not recollect ever to have seen a more venerable man; the long white beard, white as snow, marked him as a man of former days. As to the boot-mending, it would not have been worth mentioning, and perhaps might be justly called trifling nonsense, if the author had said no more than is given in the review; it was simply material because the boots were *immersed in water for half an hour*, an operation quite novel to the author, and, as he thought, harmless at least in the relation. 5. And so with regard to the Aga's brother. A more complete personification of Falstaff the author never beheld—at least of the personage so represented in prints and history—immensely corpulent, with the same regard to personal safety combined with the most unbounded love of all the good things of this life; and the author is not aware that there is any thing *'admirable'* in speaking of the wine of Cyprus as possibly the identical 'sack' of Shakespeare; on the contrary, he thought it a good opportunity to mention what he has often thought highly probable, that the 'sack' so called did really come from the Levant, and was the produce of the luscious grape of Cyprus. 6. With respect to the complaint made against the want of agreement between the map and the work, and the work, the facts more deeply concerned; for the labour which he bestowed upon the map was fatiguing in the extreme, and he prided himself not only on its being the best which has yet appeared of the part of Asia Minor which it comprises, but upon its perfect accuracy. Now, certainly to mention the *principal cities* in England, and thereby lead the reader to infer that inaccuracies occur in the names of places equally important in Asia Minor, is to give the map a character so discreditable as necessarily to injure most materially the whole work. The author has referred to the map, and he cannot find a single place of importance in which this inaccuracy occurs. It frequently happens that a place mentioned by the author is spelt differently in different maps, and when this is the case the author has repeatedly given both, as *Koola* or *Kula*, *Ushak* or *Hushak*, *Gialobatch* or *Golobatz*; in the last word it is often written *Gialobatch*, but as its true pronunciation is *Gialobatz*, it would have misled a future traveller if the author had not given both names to shew their identity. In some few cases the name on the map is divided by an hyphen, which in the book is not so divided; this, though immaterial, was without the author's approbation, though whether the name be written *Eskihissar*, or *Eski-hissar*, cannot be matter of moment, particularly when it is recollected that it is a compound word meaning the *old castle*—or *Sairikeng*, or *Sairi-keng*, the village of the *saran* or palace. The error in the genealogy of the Seleucide is a typographical one, and the author is inclined to believe existed in the work from which it was taken. It is not, however, very important, because Strabo was in point of fact the second wife by whom Seleucus had issue, though there was another preceding him whose name is unknown, who having had none, scarcely deserved to be noticed."

* Upon this we shall only observe, that the map may be valuable on account of the accuracy with which places are laid down; but that more than one half of these places mentioned in the narrative are spelt differently on the map; and it was of this inconsistency with himself as the author that we found fault. The other points are immaterial; and the MS. from which we have printed the above, so illegible, that we do not wonder at any mistakes.—*Eds. L. G.*

above, we have contemplated with the best of earthly feelings black slabs below, on which the love and sorrow, the affliction and hope, of the surviving heart were beautifully recorded.

It is, however, time for us to continue our homeward route towards Smyrna; and the first place at which we arrive is Isbarta, which the author conjectures may be the Baris of antiquity. Here the party were lodged under the same roof with a body of Turkish soldiers, fugitives belonging to the sultan's army recently defeated by Ibrahim Pasha at Chams. And we may here notice that our countryman was frequently very near the victorious troops of the Pasha; that he is a strenuous commander of the Turks, and accuses the Pasha and his Egyptians, &c., of many acts of cruelty and oppression. At Isbarta a young Turkish officer, called Yacoub Bey, third captain of the 9th regiment of cavalry, visited his quarters; and the interview offers us an entertaining extract:—

"He was a young fellow of most extraordinary intelligence; he seated himself close to us, asked a thousand questions, and told us as many stories; spoke French, Greek, a little Italian, and even a few words of English; and lamented bitterly he could not leave his regiment to improve his mind by residing in Paris or England. Having seen Napoleon on board the Bellerophon, I was much struck by the strong resemblance, making allowance for difference of age; and on telling him of it, he smiled, as evidently much gratified, and said every one had told him the same thing at Constantinople. He entertained us with many a story, most of them, as the following, of the marvellous kind. When he was with the army at Antioch in Syria, he went, accompanied by some friends of the regiment, to see a *grotto*, of which they had heard strange things. It was not far from Antioch, and lay in a beautiful grove. Within the grotto was a lake, the waters of which were green as the emerald; and at the farther end of the grotto, beyond the lake, were piled up, and visible from the entrance, immense heaps of diamonds, gold, and silver. On the lake floated a boat of iron, which immediately on the arrival of any one kindly places itself close to the entrance, as if inviting them to come on board and take possession of the treasures. Captain Yacoub and his friends had their eyes dazzled by the glittering heaps, and their hearts tantalised by the boat moving, as usual, close to their side. But they were prudent young men, and had heard of the fate which would befall them if they ventured on board. The treasures are guarded by an invisible necromancer, and the instant any one is sufficiently covetous and fool-hardy to enter the boat, he is conveyed close to the riches; but then the boat turns, and he has no means of escape. Captain Yacoub Bey asserted so positively that he had himself seen the lake, the grotto, the boat, and even the treasures, that I am inclined to believe that he really saw what he imagined to be so—probably some crystallisation, or stalactites, glittering in the sunbeams. The description of the grotto and the grove agrees with the ancient account of the fountain of Daphne, near Antioch. He also assured us that he had seen at Konia, in a large subterranean passage, through which ran a strong stream of water, a stone, or rather rock, of enormous size; which, by the continued action of the water upon it, might be easily moved with the shoulder. I related to him the account of the Cornish Logan-stone, its removal and more marvellous replacement by Lieutenant Goldsmith. The young captain looked at me stedfastly, and, half offended,

asked why I disbelieved his stories, for he was persuaded that I had invented the story of the Logan-stone as a polite way of telling him I did not believe him."

Yacoub furnished an itinerary of some geographical interest of the march between Isbarta and Chams, i. e. Homs, or Hems, the ancient Emess, where Heliogabalus was born. The distance is calculated at 236 hours; and several memorable places are on the way.*

In journeying from Isbarta, the author suffered much from illness, and, consequently, his research became less active and instructing. The chief disquisition refers to Colosse, which Mr. Arundell endeavours to fix at or very close to Khonas, between that town and Denizli. To establish this point, he discusses the positions of *two* rivers in the vicinity, which disappear under ground, and which have been confounded by preceding writers. The ruins, however, were only seen from a distance; and we will not enter upon the conjectural evidence, though it is strong, and apparently much in favour of Mr. Arundell's conclusion.

Referring the more inquisitive in such matters to the work itself, we shall close our remarks with two passages; the one interesting, as we think it throws a perfect light upon a remarkable scriptural comparison; and the other as it also enlightens us on a subject which has caused much public disputation, viz. the honour of originating the Bell and the Lancasterian systems of tuition.

"As we were ascending the hill (says our author) I saw something shining on the road, which proved to be one of the needles used by the camel-drivers for mending their camel furniture. It was about six inches long, and had a large, very long eye; it had evidently been dropped by one of the conductors of a caravan which was some little way a-head of us, and of which the sound of the camel bells, as it was occasionally brought to us by the wind, was so agreeable, that I was not surprised Mr. Lovell should call the camels lovers of music. This association of the needle with the camels at once reminded me of the passage which has been considered so difficult to be illustrated. 'It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.' Why should it not be taken literally?" Why not, indeed! no association could be more common, and no illustration more natural.

On the second matter Mr. A. observes:—"Volumes have been written on the question, whether Dr. Bell or Mr. Lancaster is to have the honour of the invention of the system of *mutuel enseignement*. It is, perhaps, not generally known, if known at all, that this system was actually in use at the great seat of ancient learning, Athens, one hundred and fifty years ago, as may be seen by referring to a small volume, in French, called '*Athenes Ancienne et Moderne*' [Nouvelle?] * * * The author is the Sieur de la Guilletiere, and it was published in 1675; and the following is the account of the school system:—"Our janissary proposed to us to go and see a Greek of his acquaintance, who was a *didascalos*, or school-master. We desired no better, and were upon thorns till we were with him: but, alas! how were we disappointed, (who expected nothing but the sublime notions of Plato, Zeno, and Aristotle,) when the janissary told us he was a *mechanic*—how were we surprised to consider

* At page 157, a similar itinerary of the extent of the archbishopric of Psidia is given; which is also geographically useful, though incomplete in its intermediate stages between the principal sites.

a man of that quality should succeed to the place of such excellent persons! We found about thirty young lads sitting upon benches, and their master at the head of them, teaching them to read. He rose up when we came in, and received us very civilly, in which, to give them their due, that nation is not sparing. The janissary desired him to go on with his boys, and give us the liberty of seeing his method, which was pretty, and *much beyond ours*; the master causing the whole *classis* to read at a time without confusion, every scholar being obliged to attention, and to mind what his next neighbour reads. They had each of them the same authors in their hand; and, for example, if he had thirty scholars, he chose out some continued discourse, and gave them but thirty words to read; the first boy reading the first word, the second boy the second word, and so on. If they read roundly and right, he gave them thirty words more; but if any of the boys were at an imperfect,* he was corrected by the next, who was always very exact in observing him, and he his neighbour, till the whole number of words were read; so that the thirty scholars lying all of them at catch, and ready to take advantage of any defect in their neighbour, stimulated by an ambition of being thought the best scholar, every one's lesson was the lesson of all, and happy was he that could say it the best. To obviate any of the scholars in eluding that word by preparing himself for any single word, their places were changed, and he who at one reading was in the first place, was removed a good distance in the next. Thus one lesson was enough for a whole form, how numerous soever; and, what was very convenient for the master, the boys were not constrained to come to him one after another, for every one was a master to his neighbour."

Is there really nothing new under the sun? How few could answer the question!

The lithographic embellishments are most beautiful.

Medwin's Angler in Wales, &c.

[Second Notice: conclusion.]

As we have observed that this is not so much of a piscatorial as a miscellaneous publication, we hope our readers will be better pleased if we make our concluding illustrations bear upon statements and recollections about Lord Byron, than upon trout-catching and otter-hunting, even though the former is varied by tales and anecdotes, and the latter by a marvellous account of canine courage, friendship, and fidelity. In his rambles, Capt. M. represents himself as encountering Commander R. of the Royal Navy, who, like Medwin himself, had seen a good deal of Byron abroad; and into his mouth he puts the following descriptions, commencing about the year 1815 at Geneva—which place, by the by, the author reviles as "concentrating in itself more than enough of the over-righteous—well *sobriqué'd* with the title of *moniers*—and many of the sons of our nobles and gentlemen *finish* their education there. * * * But what do the students learn? I never met with one who did not leave behind the little he had brought with him: and what did they acquire in its place?—a smattering of botany gleaned from the lecture-room—a deep insight into dissipation; execrable French, picked up at the *conversations* of a few *soi-disant* aristocrats, who keep *pen-sions*, the last of the *ailles de pigeon*. No where is nobility so disgusting as in these petty states.

* Obscurely expressed.

Castes prevail in Geneva to an extent unknown any where but among the Hindoos: no talent, no wealth, no merit can break through the barrier of birth."

But of Commander R. and Lord B.? the former is driven by a gale on the lake to take refuge on the shore, and happens on Mont Allegre, Shelley's campaign: the colloquy proceeds as follows:—

"On rounding the point of the wall, I observed two persons, whom I recognised as that young poet and Byron. They were about to step on board their boat—and this was the origin of an acquaintance that only ended with their deaths. 'What was Byron's appearance at this time?' 'Any thing but what I expected, from a portrait I had seen of the bard. The likeness the world drew of him was a fancy one. His figure was any thing but good. It was short, and devoid of symmetry; his voice was effeminate and without compass; and then there was an affectation in the way in which he modulated its tones. Shelley's was equally extraordinary, being what I should call a cracked soprano. We had a very animated conversation, and it ended in the two friends giving up their water-party, and his lordship's inviting me to Diodati, that stood commanding the port, and separated from it by a sloping vineyard. We passed a pleasant evening; and I frequently renewed my visits to Coligny. Perhaps that was the *beau idéal* of society. Our days were passed on the lake, in sauntering along its banks till the shades of evening set in; then Shelley would read to us his favourite poets, Dante or Petrarch, or explain passages from that romantic and wild drama of Goethe, whence Byron drew the inspiration of Manfred, or he would charm away the night in recounting his adventures in those lands where he passed the first days of his travels, and indulge in dreams (such we then thought them) of the independence of Greece. Those were glorious hours.' 'Was Byron at that time the misanthrope 'Childe Harold' would lead us to suppose?' 'The Byron of Geneva and the Byron of England and Italy were widely different persons. Certain family affairs, and the dilapidated state of his finances, caused by a long course of extravagance, had produced in him a despondency sometimes bordering on madness. But he was suffering from wounded pride rather than hurt affections; from a morbid sensitiveness rather than a healthful sensibility. He had more of the misanthropy of the snarling Apemantus than the injured Timon—the difference between a hatred of his species and their vices. In fact, he possessed nothing of that within—

*Quod se sibi reddit amicum,
Quod pure tranquillat.*

Never were there such different accounts as are given of his person. I have heard from some, that, as to his feet, one could hardly be distinguished from the other in make or shape. 'Much was done by Sheldrake towards straightening them. An Aberdeen school-fellow of his told me, that when he was young they were both turned inwards. A Harrow woman said, that one leg was shorter than the other, and that he used to wear a patten on it at school. There seems to be as great uncertainty on this subject as on his character, which his biographers have found irreconcilable: in fact, he was a riddle, as difficult to solve as the sphynx's.' 'He had the character, when he left England, of being remarkably handsome; his complexion ruddy; his hair dark-brown, and glossy, and full of curls as the Antinous's, or Hyperion's; his forehead expansive; his

eyes possessing wonderful fire and expression.' 'If so, he must have much altered, marvelously. The greatest change, however, took place in him in a few months at Venice, where I saw him in 1818. I should hardly have known him. The life he led there surpassed Rochester's or Faublas's, and fitted him well for the Bolgi of the 'Inferno,' into which Dante plunges those immersed in such degrading pursuits as he then indulged in. As Chesterfield said of Bolingbroke, his youth was there distracted by the tumult and storm of pleasures in which he most licentiously triumphed, disdaining all decorum. His fine imagination often heated and exhausted his body in celebrating and deifying the prostitute of the night, and his convivial joys were pushed to all the extravagance of frantic Bacchanals. His passions impaired both his understanding and his character."

At Pisa, in 1820: " 'He had then grown grossly corpulent, 'vulgarly fat.' His palace on the Lung' Arno was a specimen of the Italian palazzi, large, gloomy, and uncomfortable. Below was a stone hall that struck with the chill of a crypt or catacomb, which its arched roof resembled. A perpendicular flight of steps led to the *primo piano* or *piano nobile*, guarded by Lion. A narrow corridor, which was his den, conducted to another dark antecavern, to the end of which the eye could hardly reach. I found him in his sanctum. The walls of it were stained, and against them hung a picture of Ugolino, in the 'Torre della fame,' the work of one of the Guiccioli's sisters, and a miniature of Ada. The apartment had neither carpet nor mat, and an arm and a few other chairs formed, with a table, the *ensemble* of the furniture; unless some boxes and saddle-bags in one corner might bear such a denomination. I there found him a laughing philosopher—a Don Juan. His talk at that time was a dilution of his letters, being full of *persiflage*, and abounding in humour that was not wit. He always reminded me of Voltaire, to whom he would have thought it the greatest of compliments to be compared; and if there was one writer more than another whom Byron admired, perhaps envied, (for he was even jealous of Shakspeare,) it was the author of 'Candide.' Like Voltaire, he never argued, looking upon converse as a relaxation, not a toil of mind.

* * * At Geneva he was a great dandy, but his dress at this time resembled more that of some Bengalee officer in *mufty* than an English nobleman. His clothes were of a strange and any thing but a Stultz cut, and were quite innocent of a fit. He wore a green *redingote*, with metal buttons, hanging below the calf of the leg, whose rump betrayed considerable antiquity; a white waistcoat very short, from having shrunk in many a year's washing, sailor-like blue pantaloons, and between them and the waistcoat was appended an immense bunch of seals. His face, that was pallid and fleshy, betrayed no signs of a single hair, being closely shaved up to his ears, giving his visage an unmanly and unbecoming appearance, rendered still more so by the downward fold in his collar, and the lowness of his white cravat, that shewed a considerable portion of his neck, of whose bull thickness he was not a little vain.

* * * When I was there (i. e. at Pisa), continued R—, 'news came of Allegra's death. Byron sent directions that her corpse should be transmitted to Drury, and buried at Harrow, where it now lies. It was a strange caprice to commit to English ground one whose fortune was to have been forfeited in case she married a person of that nation.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Encyclopædia Britannica. Seventh Edition.
Edited by Professor Napier. Vol. IX. Part I.
pp. 400. Edinburgh, 1834. A. and C. Black;
London, Simpkin and Marshall.

He told me it was his intention to have divided his property equally between Ada and her, had she lived; though only a few weeks before, he, by a codicil to his will, bequeathed her, with the condition I mentioned, five thousand pounds, leaving the bulk of his estates to his sister, and disinheriting Miss Byron. At Florence I met several times the mother of this child, then living *en pension*. She was a brunette, with very dark hair and eyes that flashed with the fire of intelligence, and might have been taken for an Italian. Her history was a profound secret. As she possessed considerable talents—spoke French and Italian, particularly the latter, with all its *nuances* and niceties—she was much courted by the Russian coterie, a numerous and fashionable one in that city. Though not strictly handsome, she was animated and attractive, and possessed an *esprit de société* rare among our countrywomen. She might be about twenty-five or twenty-six, and supposing me unacquainted with the particulars of her unfortunate connexion with Byron, never mentioned his name, or that of her daughter. No part of his conduct is more mysterious than his neglect of this interesting young woman; and the reason of his abandoning the mother of his child, after withdrawing it from her care, is one of the many problems I leave others to solve in this enigma. I have often heard Byron speak of Allegra. The little creature took a violent dislike to him, as it was just she should to one who so cruelly renounced and injured her who gave her birth. I do not accuse him of seduction as regards this lady. She was of a fearless and independent character, despised the opinions of the world, and looked upon the law of marriage as of human invention, having been early imbued with the doctrines of Mary Wolstoncraft, and entertaining high notions of the rights of women. The sex are fond of rakes—a strange infatuation. It is said that Byron's attentions were irresistible, and when these were enhanced by verses, the very essence of beauty and feeling, C—'s fall from virtue was inevitable. The little affection he felt for this hapless infant is shewn by his wishing to make her over to a stranger,—an intention Shelley, I believe, prevented from being carried into effect; and to have left her in a convent at her early age, on his leaving Ravenna, was a barbarous act. Her fate might have been anticipated. Unaccountable being!"

We do not know exactly what confidence to repose in Commander R—'s personal traits; but give these specimens as we find them, relating to a poet of such universal fame, and, consequently, so great an object of curiosity. In conclusion, we copy a droll anecdote, which Capt. M. tells, to enliven the mention of an overcharged tavern-bill at Lampeter:—

"I was (he says) dining at the Castle at Brighton, many years ago. The bill was, as usual, none of the most reasonable. Before the president calculated the quantum to each of the party, he sent for Mr. Tilt, the landlord, and said, loud enough for the whole room to hear, 'Mr. Tilt, you have forgotten an item in the bill!' 'Have I, sir!—I am much obliged—what may it be?' 'You should add,—To a large caterpillar in the heart of the cauliflower, so much; it is the only thing come to table unchanged for in the account.'"

This is exactly what we find of many books now: the publishers charge for the boards or binding, and never say a word about the caterpillar which has crawled over and destroyed all the leaves.

This part of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* is almost entirely occupied by the article "Entomology," by James Wilson, brother to the poetical naturalist of *Blackwood's Magazine*, and than whom no one was more fit to give a careful, and at the same time tasteful, review of the present state of that science. Mr. Wilson has for a long period devoted his attention to the natural history of insects, and has lately, in conjunction with the Rev. James Duncan, published a work on the entomology of the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, which is, however, far surpassed by the present treatise—the most philosophical as well as the most readable upon this subject with which we are acquainted. The doctrines of Mr. Macleay, expounded in a dead language, and the bulk of the work in which they were contained (*Hora Entomologica*) destroyed by fire, are clearly and interestingly given to the student; and the same thing may be said of the modern anatomical and physiological views of the continental naturalists—Carus, Edwards, Andouin, Dufour, Savigny, &c., who have devoted so much attention to the intricacies of these structures—their nominal and anomalous developments—the gyration of organs around certain primitive forms, and the fugitive character of the latter when viewed in relation to the constancy and essential nature of function, as connected with the attributes of the creature's existence. The chapter on the geographical distribution of insects is characterised by the same laborious analysis of facts, which must have taken the author many years of toil to collect; and the detail of the orders, genera, and leading species of insects, is interspersed with much general and interesting matter, from which we regret that our limits will not allow us to extract information of an equally curious and pleasing character. We can only say, that this book within another is in every respect worthy of the high reputation of the author.

The Dublin Journal of Medical and Chemical Science. No. XV. Dublin, 1834, Hodges and Smith; London, Simpkin and Marshall.

The Dublin Journal of Medicine, and its collateral sciences, we are happy to see, continues its steady progress onwards. Its faults continue to be, as at first, too great a neglect of contemporary science, and a review of the "latest discoveries;" which must, indeed, prove very unsatisfactory to the isolated reader, and which to us renders it an empty shadow. Its merits are the valuable communications of the resident members of the profession, who are well known in the excellent schools, with which the most esteemed are connected, to devote considerable intelligence and great experience to the unravelling of the more complex disorders. Dublin ought to be able to support a medical journal of its own, and for the merits of these original communications it ought also to be supported by the profession in this country.

Biographical Sketches of eminent Artists; from the Earliest Ages to the Present Time. By John Gould. 12mo. pp. 669. Wilson.

A VOLUME like this is rather one of reference than to be read from the beginning to the end, like a connected composition. We have dipped into it in a number of places; and, as far as our observation has extended, we are enabled to echo the statements in the preface, that "in its arrangement the works of the most eminent writers have been consulted, and the distinctive

merits of the various artists carefully pointed out, a reference to the authorities being annexed to each article;" and that "though it is presented to the public in the compact and portable size of a pocket volume, yet it will be found to contain a greater variety of matter, and more useful information, than is to be met with in any of the voluminous works on the same subject." The biographical portion of the volume is preceded by an Introduction, which contains a brief history of the progress of the arts; a description of the several schools of painting; and an explanation of the technical terms used by artists, and by authors who treat of the arts.

Henri Quatre; or, the Days of the League.
3 vols. 12mo. Whittaker and Co.

A VERY interesting period of French history, arranged as a novel; but, in truth, being as like the real history as if it had appeared in a quarto volume under that title. Catherine, Henry de Valois, the Duc d'Alençon, Henry of Navarre, his Queen Margaret, the Fair Gabrielle, Henry of Lorraine, Chicot the jester, Biron, Tully, &c. &c. &c., all figure in the canvass; and the events of the time are recorded with fidelity from the beginning to the end—i. e. from Henri Quatre's escape to his mounting the throne—through all the intrigues and wars of the League.

The Gardener's Magazine, and Register of Rural and Domestic Improvement. By J. C. Loudon, F.L.S., &c. In Monthly Numbers; Nos. L, LI., and LII. Lond. 1834. Longman and Co.

WHO is there that does not associate ideas of comfort and enjoyment with rural amusements, and especially gardening? Or who, when fatigued with the bustle and turmoil of business, does not long for quiet and retirement in the shape of a small piece of ground, which he may lay out as a garden, and in which he may grow his own cabbages, and take an evening walk with a friend? The love of the country, as a place of relaxation from labour, is indelibly implanted in every human breast; and, as a distinguished writer has lately said, "no man ever thinks of retirement on the stones." Mr. Loudon has written largely on gardening in all its branches, and his *Gardener's Magazine* has been too long established, and is too well known to need notice from us, were it not that the three numbers before us are the commencement of a new series, published at a reduced price, and at shorter intervals, to adapt it to the increased taste for reading, and demand for information. Though reduced in price and size, these numbers manifest no reduction in interest; and among many excellent papers which they contain, we have been much pleased with those on "Landscape Gardening," by the Chevalier Sekell; on Oak-Trees, &c., by the Rev. T. Bree; and on many useful and agreeable inquiries, by others; and with that giving an account of the beautiful flower-garden of the Misses Garnier, near Wickham, with a list of its plants, and details of its management for every month in the year.

On Church Property. Pp. 22. (London, Wilson.)—A little while ago, when it was meant to describe a cut-purse or felon more criminal than the usual run of his fraternity, the phrase used to be—"He would rob a church." Now the desire to do so has become so common that we think this mode of expression ought to be discontinued; the author of the pamphlet before us might otherwise be called hard names.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

MR. BAILY in the chair.—On a clock for giving motion in right ascension to equatorial

instruments, by the Rev. R. Sheepshanks. The usual mode of measuring the distances and angles of position of double stars, or the diameters of planets, is to give a motion in right ascension to the whole instrument with one hand equivalent to the apparent motion of the heavens, while the micrometer is managed with the other. The whole difficulty of the manual part of the operation consists in giving the former of these motions; for, if by one hand we could exactly give the motion of the heavens, the management of the micrometer would be identical with the use of a circular protractor with one hand. The higher the magnifying power of the telescope, and the larger the instrument, the more troublesome, of course, it is to give this most delicate motion. It is probably owing to a difficulty of this kind that Sir John Herschel found "that the disuse of this species of observation for three or four years had so far impaired his habit of exact measurement as to deprive him for some time of confidence in his results," and that the measures of distances are less satisfactory than those of position. At first sight it might be thought that the increased difficulty of manipulation, which accompanies an increased size of the instrument, depended solely on the greater magnifying power. This is by no means the case. The hand, it is true, in a large, as well as in a small, instrument, is capable of giving a tolerably smooth and regular motion for about half a revolution of the wrist, after which it must be relieved; but this motion must be communicated to the hour circle by a handle and Hook's joint. Now the Hook's joint does not transfer an equable motion unless the tangent screw and handle are nearly in the same straight line, a condition obviously impossible in a large instrument, except for a small portion of the heavens. Hence the observer is required to humour the instrument, and accommodate his hand to the compounded motion of the heavens and the Hook's joint, which will be difficult in almost every situation. The increased weight and flexibility of a long handle adds very materially to the difficulty; but this is not all, nor the worst consequence of greatly increased dimensions. When one hand is exhausted by giving the motion in right ascension, the other must be immediately brought from the management of the micrometer to its aid, in order to continue the motion, otherwise there will probably be a bobbing or rocking motion given to the whole machine, arising from the inertia of the mass. It seems almost unnecessary to do more than advert to this obvious consequence of increased magnitude; but as the subject is one of primary importance, and as upon this point the necessity of clock-work motion for large equatorial vessels mainly depends, it is proper to explain it very briefly. Matter when at rest requires force to put it in motion, and matter once put in motion requires force to stop it; in either case the matter does not move or stop until a sufficient force is brought into action. When the matter is movable about an axis, the force required for moving or stopping its motion is proportional to a quantity which is called the "moment of inertia." This moment of inertia is estimated by the quantity of matter multiplied into the square of the radius of gyration. Now, in similarly constructed instruments, the quantity of matter is as the cube of the linear dimensions, and the radius of gyration is as the linear dimension; hence the moment of inertia varies as the fifth power of the dimension. Thus, if there were true equatorial instruments similarly constructed, one of

which was four times as large as the other, the moment of inertia in the one case would be more than 1000 times that in the other. It is certain, therefore, that after any change from motion to rest, or *versâ vice*, the tendency of the instrument to shoot beyond, or to lag behind, its proper place, would be a thousand times greater in the large than in the small example; and it is almost certain that no clamp or strength of framing would resist this tendency to produce oscillation or tremor in a stand of such colossal dimensions as would be required for the large refractors now constructed, and in the telescope itself. The essential qualification of a clock for moving an equatorial is that it should go smoothly. It is comparatively of little importance that it should be well regulated, provided the variations in the rate are not such as any jerk or tremor in the telescope can produce. Hence almost any train of well-cut wheels, with a heavy fly-wheel, and a fan for regulating the velocity, the author believes would answer the purpose of a clock movement in right ascension for the measurement of double stars. By a little care in proportioning the weight and the fan, it would be easy to bring the rate tolerably near to one hundredth of the truth. There would, therefore, be a small, and it might be a varying, motion, which is to be corrected by moving the whole of the eye-piece, micrometer and all, that quantify each minute. With a little attention to the clock, the star is easily kept in the best part of the field. A movable or slipping piece, pressed by a screw against a spring, instead of the fixed eye-end, is all the addition to the ordinary fitting up of the telescope that is required; and the motion of this is as smooth and within command as the micrometer itself. Such an addition to the eye-end is convenient, and perhaps necessary, wherever clock-work is to be applied. A clock of this kind, but with every disadvantage of workmanship, contrivance, &c., the author has applied and used; and, so far as the limited power of the telescope would allow others as well as himself to form an opinion, with perfect success. The telescope was a good 31 feet, with a magnifying power above 100. It may, therefore, be considered as proved, that a smooth motion communicated to a tangent-screw will produce a smooth motion in a properly constructed polar axis of very large dimensions. Besides the trial above alluded to, which was, perhaps, as coarse and unfavourable as could be imagined, the author adds, he was informed by Sir J. Herschel, that he had given a tolerably satisfactory motion to his 7-feet equatorial with machinery of no higher pretensions than could be made out of a worn-out smoke-jack. The author proceeds to give a technical description of the clocks of Gambey and Fraunhofer, which would not be very well understood without diagrams—therefore we pass it over.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA FOR AUGUST.

23^d 4^h 35^m—the Sun enters Virgo.

Lunar Phases and Conjunctions.

	D.	H.	M.
☾ New Moon in Cancer	4	18	35
☽ First Quarter in Libra	11	10	13
☾ Full Moon in Aquarius	18	20	11
☽ Last Quarter in Taurus	25	23	46

The Moon will be in conjunction with

	D.	H.	M.
Mercury in Cancer	4	14	6
Venus in Virgo	7	30	40
Saturn in Virgo	9	10	37
Uranus in Aquarius	18	15	19
Jupiter in Taurus	27	11	50
Mars in Taurus	28	3	58

7^d 10^h—the Moon in perigee. 23^d 5^h—inapogee. 21^d 8^h 52^m—s Piscium will emerge from behind the Moon: the immersion takes place below the horizon.

4^d 13^h 22^m—Mercury in his inferior conjunction with the Sun. 5^d—in conjunction with 2^a Cancri; difference of latitude 26'. 5^d 18^h 38^m—greatest south latitude. 14^d 17^h 16^m—stationary. 22^d 11^h 11^m—greatest western elongation (18° 22'). 24^d 18^h 4^m—ascending node. 29^d 7^h 25^m—in perihelion.

1^d 22^h—Venus in conjunction with α Leonis; difference of latitude 42'. 8^d 21^h—with β Virginis; difference of latitude 2'. 15^d 21^h—with γ Virginis. 21^d 5^h 25^m—descending node. 21^d 9^h 52^m—in conjunction with Saturn. 31^d 15^h—with Spica Virginis. This beautiful planet continues the bright ornament of the evening sky, shining with splendour in the north-western quarter of the heavens, soon after the sun has disappeared below the horizon.

4^d—Mars in conjunction with 2^a Tauri; difference of latitude, 4'. 11^d 18^h 4^m—in conjunction with Jupiter; difference in declination 7'. 22^d 4^h—with γ Tauri. 26^d—with 108 Tauri; difference of latitude 17'. 14^d—Vesta in conjunction with λ Tauri; the planet 1° 5' north of the star. 12^d—Juno a degree and a quarter south of 26 Aquile. Pallas 15 north of ϵ Virginis. 18^d—Ceres 36' north of 17 Virginis.

1^d 21^h—Jupiter in conjunction with γ Tauri. 11^d 18^h 4^m—with Mars.

Eclipses of the Satellites.

	D.	H.	M.	S.
First Satellite, immersion ..	15	12	27	18
	22	14	20	48
Second Satellite, emersion ..	15	12	35	57
immersion ..	22	12	55	20
emersion ..	22	15	13	10
immersion ..	29	15	32	25
Third Satellite, emersion ..	31	11	43	48

Jupiter and Mars in the brilliant constellation Taurus are rapidly gaining on the midnight sky.

18^d 13^h—Saturn in conjunction with γ Virginis; difference of latitude 34'. 29^d—Major axis of the ring 36" 62. Minor axis 5" 23. On the evening of the 21^d Saturn may be seen 2° 29' north of Venus.

17^d 13^h 50^m—Uranus in opposition to the Sun, midway between μ Capricorni and α Aquarii. This planet is now in its most favourable position for observation.

Deftford.

J. T. BARKER.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

SIR A. JOHNSTON in the chair.—Donations were presented from Major Stewart: a curious painting, supposed to have been executed about A.D. 1625 by a celebrated artist named Abd al Samad, representing the Emperor Jehangir and his court. This interesting record was brought to England in 1769 by Col. Champion. From Lieut. Burnes, a copy of the narrative of his travels, &c. with Arrow-smith's map; from Capt. Burt, some geological specimens, petrifications, &c. from the Jumna, articles of dress, Indian coins, &c. &c.; and from Sir A. Johnston, an original drawing of the crater of Mount Merapi, in Java, a translation of a Singhalese description of elephants, and an Indian matchlock and powder-flask, apparently very ancient. Members were admitted. Dr. W. Ansley's paper on atmospheric influence, Part I. was read. After quoting the opinions of various authors, both ancient and modern, on the subject which he has selected, the author goes on to examine the influence of climate on the moral and physical character of men, shewing that in warm coun-

tries the intellect is more early developed than in the colder regions of the earth; from this he proceeds to a consideration of the changes effected in national character by causes independent of climate, and illustrates his arguments by examples drawn from the former and present condition of various nations. In conclusion, the paper details some particulars relative to the difference of temperature observable between the continents of Europe and America. The reading of Capt. M'Murdo's account of Sindh was then continued. Resuming his observations on the national character of the Sindians, the author states that they are certainly the most self-sufficient, ignorant, and bigoted people on record. They are also accused of being treacherous, though there are many who possess a high opinion of the rights of hospitality, and who are rarely known to infringe its duties. The Billochee tribe, in particular, entertain the greatest respect for their females, who possess the highest influence over them; and they pay more regard to any stipulation to which their women are a party, than if they were sanctioned by an oath on the Koran. Capt. M'Murdo then proceeds to describe the various classes of inhabitants in detail, commencing with the military, whom he describes as inferior to the Arabs in coolness in action, and deficient in that sense of honour which characterises the Indian soldier.

19th July.—The Right Hon. the President in the chair. Miss Sullivan presented some interesting Burmese and other costumes. Maharaja Kali Krishna Bahadur, of Calcutta, C.M.R.A.S., presented a copy of his Bengali translation of Dr. Johnson's *Rasselas*, and of a system of polite learning. Major Yule presented a lithographed fac-simile of a magnificent gold coin of Shah Jehan, which weighed 70 oz. Major Yule has annexed translations of the inscriptions, and inscribed the whole to the Society. Sir A. Johnston presented two water-colour portraits of a Muhammadan physician, belonging to the Kandyan court, who was invested with peculiar privileges, as being descended from the Chalias, or cloth-weavers, first introduced into Ceylon, on whom these privileges were conferred by the then King of Kandy. A copy of the grant was presented to the Society by Sir A. Johnston.—A memoir on the sect of Kapriyas, by R. C. Money, Esq., was read. This sect claims to have been founded by a companion of the divine Rama, after his conquest of Ceylon, for the especial worship of the goddess Parvati, under her name of Kalapuri or Kayapuri, termed, in the language of Cutch, Asapura. The temple of this divinity in Mhurr is of great antiquity and celebrity, the sovereigns of the country not being considered firmly seated on the throne until they have visited this shrine. The order is limited to 120 or 130 members, who are prohibited from marrying, and manage their domestic affairs without any assistance from women: when a vacancy occurs it is filled up by an individual taken from a Hindu caste, of any age above eight or nine years. Their lands are described as being well managed, and their villages more prosperous and thriving than any others in the Rao's dominions.—Mr. Finlay's journal of a route from Mocha to Senna was read. This gentleman performed his journey in August and the two following months of 1823, having been sent for by the Imam to visit him professionally. He describes the country he traversed; and, after noticing the circumstances of his visit to the Imam, he furnishes some account of the town of Senna, its suburbs, and the surrounding

country; to which he adds details on its government and resources; the character and appearance of its inhabitants, and its natural productions and commerce, comprising also sketches of the history of the present Imam and his predecessors; concluding the whole with general remarks, and a brief memorandum of his return to Mocha. At the conclusion of this paper the meetings of the Society were adjourned till December next.

FINE ARTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FURNITURE. *Fancies. A Series of Subjects in Outline, now first published from the Original Plates.* Designed and etched by Moritz Retzsch; with Prefatory Remarks and Descriptions by Mrs. Jameson. Saunders and Otley.

"MORITZ RETZSCH, of Dresden," observes Mrs. Jameson, "is already famed in this country, not less than in his own, for the spirit, the rich and congenial spirit, in which he has embodied in visible forms the conceptions of Goethe, Schiller, and Shakspeare. He now appears before us in a new character, himself both poet and designer. In these *Fancies* he has employed his rare graphic talent, simply as the most easy and familiar medium through which to convey to the minds of others the sentiments and ideas with which his own powerful and luxuriant imagination seems for ever overflowing. The pencil is to him what the pen is to other poets; his effusions throw themselves into forms before they can be clothed in words; and instead of writing a sonnet to his wife on her birth-day, our artist-poet finds it easier to sketch a birth-day ode, in which her worth and beauty, and his own tenderness, his happiness, his hopes, and his wishes, assume an endless variety of the most elegant and the most fanciful images. To such occasions the greater part of these sketches owe their existence: they were all, in the first instance, dedicated to his wife, and adorned the pages of her album; and never was the inventive power of genius, inspired by love, more gracefully displayed than in some of these little birth-day poems, for such they appeared to me."

The outlines are six in number; viz. "Deceived Hope," "The Enigma of Human Life," "The Fate of the Poet," "Love and the Maiden," "The Tormented Spirit," and "Love Reposing." We entirely concur in Mrs. Jameson's admiration of them; but we are utterly at a loss to discover any connexion between them and the "worth and beauty" of Madame Retzsch, or "his own tenderness;" and we cannot help thinking that this idea of the fair annotator's is quite as "fanciful" as any thing that ever emanated from Retzsch himself.

One of the most beautiful of these fine plates is "Deceived Hope," which is thus well described by Mrs. Jameson's graceful pen:—"A group of playful children are peeping under a hat for a butterfly, which they fancy they have caught and hold secure. It is easy to see that the pursuit has been over many a summer field—through many a flowery brake: and now they bend forward in various attitudes of eagerness and expectation, to seize the promised joy. Meantime their little captive has escaped unperceived, and is fluttering away beyond their reach. The innocent, arch delight in one little face, the eager earnestness of the other, and the fond, infantine [infantile] confidence and simplicity in the third, who is

just peeping under the edge of the hat, are very lovely; the parable of Hope has seldom been more charmingly or more forcibly expressed."

"Love and the Maiden," and "Love Reposing," are also sweetly composed groups, and would paint admirably. "The Tormented Spirit," though full of energy, has in some respects too near an approximation to extravagance. As to the "Fate of the Poet," we confess we interpret it differently from Mrs. Jameson. To us it appears very clearly to represent the danger to which the possessor of an ardent imagination is too often exposed, of being overcome and degraded by sensual temptation and indulgence.

"Retzsch," says Mrs. Jameson, "is exceedingly striking in his appearance, with a grand, picturesque head, and a fine, open, expressive countenance. In his manners and mode of life, he is domestic, simple, and independent; he is married to a most amiable, sweet-looking wife, and is much respected by his countrymen. Love of his home, love for art, and the most passionate ambition for all the distinction his art can give, appear to divide an existence, which, exempt from all vicissitudes without, may be presumed happy, in spite of a most excitable and sensitive temperament, and that inequality of spirits which is said to be so frequently combined with the gift of rare and surpassing genius."

Studies from Nature. By J. Inskipp. Plate III. C. E. Wagstaff, sculp.

A SWEET and lovely female head, most gracefully turned, and with hair richly clustered. Nothing in this style of art can excel these graceful selections of Mr. Inskipp's pencil; and if they are really "Studies from Nature," we must say that the artist has had the good fortune to discover the goddess in her most bountiful moods.

DRAMA.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

ON Monday the campaign of the New English Opera may be said to have fairly commenced with *Nourjahad*; already skillfully dramatised by Mr. Arnold from Mrs. Sheridan's Persian Tale, and now altered by the same hand into a grand opera, with the music composed by Mr. E. J. Loder, of Bath. The theatre, filled with beauty and fashion, was seen to greater advantage than before; and the general impression was certainly both striking and agreeable. The style of the *coup-d'œil*, and the blending of the prevalent colours, the brilliancy of the light, and the classic taste of the ornaments, all combined to produce a gay and lively effect; which was not diminished when, at the end of a graceful overture (twice played), the scene drew up to a splendid procession. The opera is got up superbly throughout; as if real genii and houris were indeed the actors and doers of the whole. The general character of the music is charming; without, perhaps, any claim to decided originality. There is not a note which does not fall sweetly on the ear; and not only are some of the airs and concerted pieces extremely pleasing, but the marches and choruses possess a yet higher degree of merit. Altogether, we consider the production to be very creditable to native talent, and a gratifying specimen of what our own school is likely to produce, with proper encouragement from a liberal manager and a discerning public. It had the good fortune, in the first instance, to be sustained by adequate representatives. Wilson as the *Sultan*, and Phillips as *Nourjahad*; Miss F. Healy as *Man-*

dane, and E. Romer as *Zulima*, were delightful. In her first solo, Miss Healy, from agitation, sang rather out of tune; but, cheered by an *encore*, she executed it beautifully, and a trio afterwards, in which she was, with Wilson and Phillips, so unanimously approved as to be called for a third time. It is a delicious melody, and the three voices harmonised to perfection. In the subordinate parts, Keeley, an attendant on *Nourjahad*; J. Bland, a slave-merchant; Minton, the *Vizier*; Miss Novello, the *Genius*; Mlle. Josephine, one of the *Houri*; and others, contributed to the general success of the piece. The scenery, dresses, and decorations, the marches and dances, were of the highest order, both for elegance and splendour; and, at the fall of the curtain, the applause was enthusiastic. *Nourjahad* has been performed every night since, with increasing success. We ought to have said, that Phillips's and Wilson's solos are also warmly encored.

VICTORIA.

Who'll lend me a Wife? is the bi-gamous name of a farce produced here on Tuesday, from the pen of Mr. Millingen; and which experienced just that sort of success which a farce must desire—being laughed at from beginning to end. Mrs. Orger is an Irish landlady, and Abbott a boarder with her, something in her debt, and nothing to pay withal. The return of his uncle, Mr. W. Keene, forces him upon his resources, one of which is to represent himself as a married man—and a wife is consequently needed for the occasion. Miss *Vergenal* (Miss Horton), the Irish landlady, and Mrs. *Gumpston* (Mrs. Garrick), who turns out in the end to be the uncle's wife, with a son (Ross) sixteen years old, successively figure in this capacity; and, after many scenes of merriment and *equivoque*, the *dénouement* is wrought out to the satisfaction of all concerned. *Who'll lend me a Wife?* is likely to be as permanent as the national debt: with his other exertions in the right path, Mr. Abbott will, it is hoped, make it pay like the three per cents. Among these exertions we cannot but notice the announcement for Sheridan Knowles's benefit on Monday—previous to the loss of our distinguished dramatist, who is on the point of leaving us for America. Macready, Liston, and Mrs. Orger, have volunteered for the occasion; and by a circular we have received, in common, we presume, with other parties connected with the Drama and the press, we are glad to see that friends of the legitimate stage, and of the native genius which adorns it, are taking a warm interest in this evening's *clat*.

VARIETIES.

The Memoirs of Mrs. Hannah More, about to appear, will, it is stated, contain letters by Mrs. Montagu, Sir William Pepps, Lord Orford, Dr. Langhorne, Mr. Garrick, Mrs. Boscawen, Bishop Porteus, Archbishop Magee, and other eminent public characters.

Napoleon said to his uncle, Cardinal Fesch, "Go and select the place which you are to occupy hereafter in the Pantheon." "No," replied the cardinal, "you would not have me placed in the antichamber of hell."—*Simeon's Letters*.

John Galt.—We rejoice to say that a letter of the 22d, from Mr. Galt to Mr. Moyes, gives a better account of our worthy friend's health than we had reason to expect from the severity of his last attack, and also of the medicaments to which he was obliged to submit. He says he is leaving Edinburgh for Greenock, where

he will be stationary for some time; and that, in spite of the application of the dreadful moxa to his spine, he thinks himself slowly mending.

Public Records.—"The Public Advantages of entrusting the Records of the Exchequer, &c. to the irresponsible custody of the King's Remembrancer," &c.—We beg earnestly to direct the public attention, and still more the attention of those in authority, to the melancholy exposition of recklessness and abuse which this pamphlet unfolds. That the mischief already done, and the loss of records already sustained, are irreparable, we are too well aware; but surely, after so distinct an exhibition of utter carelessness, to which a want of proper responsibility has led, it is not too much to expect that measures will be taken to prevent farther injury, and that the important documents which are still undestroyed will be collected, arranged, fully catalogued, placed in safety, and committed to the charge of an efficient control for reference and preservation.

R. Lander.—Mr. Moore, a medical gentleman, and one of the companions of poor Lander when he was so treacherously attacked and murdered, has returned to this country. His account of the fatal transaction only confirms our former statements. There were very great numbers of the natives, and they appeared to belong to several countries; whether slaves engaged on the side of their masters, or free agents, it is impossible to say. It was evident that the assault had been fully preconcerted. The assailants were provided with fire-arms; and after the first onset, five hundred of them, in about thirty canoes, pursued and fired upon their victims. One white man, a Swede, who had shrunk to the bottom of the boat from the beginning, was killed by nearly the last shot, which entered his head and came out near his mouth.

Lieutenant Allen.—One of the gallant companions of Lander on the expedition, and who left the Niger previous to this sad occurrence, has, we understand, been sedulously employed since his return home, on a chart of the river, so far as it was surveyed on their first ascent. This work, under the authority of the Admiralty, will establish many geographical certainties of much importance. We have heard also, that this able officer has made a number of accurate sketches of scenery, and which we trust will somehow be produced to gratify the public interest.

"I heard of an animal called 'Rass' by the Kirgizzies, and 'Koosgar' by the natives of the low countries; which is described as peculiar to Pamere. It is larger than a cow, and less than a horse; of a white colour, with pendent hair under its chin, and crowned with horns of huge dimensions. These are described to be so large that no one man can lift a pair of them; and, when left on the ground, the small foxes of the country bring forth their young inside them. The flesh of the 'Rass' is much prized by the Kirgizzies, who hunt and shoot it with arrows. This animal is said to delight in the coldest climate; and would appear, from its beard, to be of the goat species, or, perhaps, the bison. A common-sized 'Rass' will require two horses to bear its flesh from the field."—*Burnes' Travels*.

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METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1834.

July.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 10	From 51. to 73.	29.98 .. 29.93
Friday... 11	.. 56. .. 79.	29.94 .. 29.99
Saturday... 12	.. 57. .. 81.	29.96 .. 29.90
Sunday... 13	.. 50. .. 72.	29.85 .. 29.88
Monday... 14	.. 53. .. 76.	29.90 .. 29.97
Tuesday... 15	.. 50. .. 81.	30.05 .. 30.15
Wednesday 16	.. 53. .. 85.	30.18 stationary

Prevailing wind S.W.

The 12th and 13th cloudy; a few drops of rain in the evening of the 13th; otherwise generally clear.

July.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 17	From 56. to 87.	30.16 to 30.09
Friday... 18	.. 60. .. 75.	29.94 .. 29.79
Saturday... 19	.. 50. .. 59.	29.61 .. 29.50
Sunday... 20	.. 49. .. 65.	29.43 .. 29.58
Monday... 21	.. 51. .. 65.	29.66 .. 29.72
Tuesday... 22	.. 53. .. 71.	29.81 .. 29.91
Wednesday 23	.. 51. .. 76.	29.94 .. 29.97

Wind variable, S.W. prevailing.

Except the 17th and 23d, cloudy, with frequent rain; a thunder-storm on the evening of the 18th.

Rain fall 2 inches, and .2 of an inch.

The wheat, which every where promises abundance, has in some places been cut; and, no doubt, but for the rain since the 17th, the harvest would, ere this, have generally commenced.

The thermometer rose on the 17th to a height not attained since June 28th, 1826, at which time it was 89. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the London Meteorological Society. June 1834.

Thermometer—Highest.....	82.00° .. the 20th,
Lowest.....	34.00 .. 11th.
Mean.....	56.97083.
Barometer—Highest.....	30.12 .. 30th.
Lowest.....	29.28 .. 12th.
Mean.....	29.741.

Number of days of rain, 9.

Quantity of rain in inches and decimals, 1.96825.

Winds.—0 East—5 West—4 North—10 South—2 North-east—1 South-east—7 South-west—1 North-west.

General Observations.—The maximum and mean of the thermometer were above any, in the corresponding month, during the last twelve years; and the range was greater than usual, the minimum being below any since 1827. The quantity of rain was less than the average of the month, and much less than in June 1832 and 1833. The mean of the barometer has only once been exceeded, in the same month, in the last twelve years, viz. in 1829. On the 11th some hail fell, in a squall from the south-west. Lightning was seen on the 14th and 21st, and one clap of thunder was heard on the latter of those days.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are obliged to postpone our concluding review of *Lieutenant Burnes' Travels*.

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